

S. R. Menden

1863

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TWENTY-FIFTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF PUBLICATION

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN THE

United States of America.

PRESENTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT THEIR MEETING IN
PEORIA, ILLINOIS, MAY 1863.

PHILADELPHIA:
PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION,
821 CHESTNUT STREET.
1863.

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Letters relating to agencies, legacies, donations of books and tracts, the appointment of colporteurs, the editorial department of the *Home and Foreign Record* and *Sabbath-School Visitor*, manuscripts and books offered for publication, and communications respecting the general interests of the Board, to be addressed to the Rev. WILLIAM E. SCHENCK, D. D., Corresponding Secretary and Editor, No. 821 Chestnut Street.

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ACTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 1863.

ON the second day of the sessions of the General Assembly in the city of Peoria, Illinois, the following Standing Committee on the Board of Publication was announced by the Moderator, viz.—Rev. Milo J. Hiekok, D. D., Rev. L. C. Baker, Rev. Joseph L. Polk, Rev. R. F. Wilson, Rev. E. S. Wilson, and ruling elders J. C. Burt, A. M. McPherson, J. M. Lasher, and C. A. Phelps. The Annual Report of the Board was afterwards presented by the Corresponding Secretary, the Rev. William E. Sehenck, D. D., and referred to the above Committee.

On Monday, May 25th, the Special Committee appointed by the previous Assembly to examine the affairs of the Board of Publication, through the Rev. C. C. Beatty, D. D., its Chairman, presented its report, which was read by the Rev. J. M. Lowrie, D. D. The report was referred, without discussion, to the above-named Standing Committee. This report is published in full, by order of the Assembly, in the Appendix to this Annual Report.

On Friday, May 29th, the Standing Committee reported to the Assembly the following resolutions, which, after considerable discussion, were adopted by the Assembly.

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly approve of the principles expressed by the Committee touching the character of the Board's publications, and commend the efforts of the Board to furnish reading more and more attractive, acceptable, and useful to the Church.

Resolved, 2. That the Assembly highly appreciate the faithful services of the Rev. Dr. William M. Engles, as the Editor of the Board from the beginning until now; but, as in our view the duties of Editor should belong to the Corresponding Secretary, for the sake of economy and propriety, the Board is hereby directed to assign these duties to the Secretary, and to discontinue the separate office of Editor.

Resolved, 3. That the salary of the Corresponding Secretary should constitute the sole emolument for services rendered to the Board. That

therefore the amount deposited with the Presbyterian Annuity Company be withdrawn—that the Board be hereby directed to withdraw it, and to establish this principle in regard to that officer.

Resolved, 4. That the Board is hereby directed to add the duties of the Treasurer to those of the Superintendent of Colportage, without any increase of the present salary of the latter. That adequate security be still required for the proper fulfilment of the trust, and that the office of Treasurer, as a distinct one, is hereby dispensed with.

Resolved, 5. That the Board is hereby directed to assign the duties of Publishing Agent to the Superintendent of Depository, without any increase of his present salary.

Resolved, 6. That the Board is now directed to discontinue the office and salary of Solicitor, and to continue the office and salary of Book-keeper, as at present.

Resolved, 7. That the Board be directed to put the Periodical Department under the charge of one individual, making him responsible for that department; he furnishing clerks and assistants at his own expense, and that he be allowed a salary not exceeding \$1300 per annum.

Resolved, 8. That the first sentence of the resolution of the General Assembly of 1842,* (Digest, p. 421,) is hereby repealed, and the Board is directed to proceed upon the principles recommended in the report of the Special Committee, with such changes as their wisdom may suggest, still keeping in view this one matter—that no further accumulations of capital from their business, except as set forth in that report, are expected by the Assembly.

Resolved, 9. That the Assembly now approves of the theory of colportage as expressed in the report of the Special Committee; that the Board is hereby directed to consider carefully the matter of superintendents of colportage, the suggestions of the Committee respecting the employment of colporteurs, and that this whole matter be renewedly commended to the confidence, liberality, and prayers of God's people.

Resolved, 10. That the Board be directed to discontinue payments for matter furnished for the *Sabbath-School Visitor*, until they can be made from the income of the paper. That communications be invited from the Church at large, or selected from various sources, and that due efforts be made to make the paper less expensive to the Church.

Resolved, 11. That the Executive Committee be directed to publish the whole report of the Special Committee in the Annual Report of the Board.

With respect to the form and style of the *Home and Foreign Record*, the Committee recommend, that after the completion of the present volume, the whole edition be issued in a pamphlet form, with covers, (similar to the pamphlet edition already issued,) at the same price as the newspaper

* The sentence of the resolution of the Assembly of 1842, above repealed, was as follows:
 "That the funds committed by the Church to the Board of Publication, ought to be managed upon the principle of yielding a net yearly revenue of about six per centum per annum upon the actual amount of its whole capital."

edition, and that advertisements of a suitable character, enough at least to pay the additional expense of the pamphlet form, be allowed to fill the spare pages of the cover.

A dissent from the second of the above resolutions, signed by between thirty and forty of the members of the Assembly, was entered upon the minutes of that body, and another, signed by about the same number, was entered on record against the eighth resolution.

At the Annual Meeting of the Board of Publication, held June 9th, 1863, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, 1. In obedience to the directions of the General Assembly, that the separate office of Editor is hereby discontinued, and its duties are assigned to the Secretary.

Resolved, 2. That the sum of \$750, deposited during the Secretaryship of the Rev. Dr. Leyburn, with the Presbyterian Annuity Company, the interest of which was designed to pay the premium on a policy of life insurance for the benefit of the family of any Secretary of this Board who might die while in office, be withdrawn by the Treasurer of this Board.

Resolved, 3. That in obedience, likewise, to the direction of the late General Assembly, the office of Treasurer, as a distinct one, is hereby dispensed with, and the duties thereof are added to those of the Superintendent of Colportage, without any increase to the present salary of the latter; bonds for the sum of \$10,000 being still required for the proper fulfilment of the trust, and the security to be approved by the Executive Committee.

Resolved, 4. That no action of the Board is needed in regard to the office of Publishing Agent, inasmuch as that office was abolished by the Board two years ago, after the death of the lamented Joseph P. Engles.

Resolved, 5. That the office and salary of Solicitor are hereby discontinued.

Resolved, 6. That the Periodical Department is hereby placed under the charge of one individual, to be chosen by the Board, and that such individual shall be responsible for that department, reporting monthly, as heretofore, to the Committee on Periodicals, and receiving for his compensation \$1300 per annum, he being required to furnish clerks and assistants at his own expense.

Resolved, 7. That payments for matter for the *Sabbath-School Visitor* be discontinued, until they can be made from the income of the paper.

Resolved, 8. That the whole edition of the *Home and Foreign Record* be published, after the first of January next, in a pamphlet edition, with covers, at the same price as the quarto edition is now published.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION.
1863.

WITH the last day of the month of February ended another year of the labours of the Board. It now becomes both its duty and its privilege once more to report to the General Assembly a summary of facts in regard to those labours, and their results.

The year just ended was entered upon with many anxieties. Civil war was raging in our long peaceful and happy land. The minds of our people were intensely occupied with political and military affairs. They were about to enter upon a new experience in the matter of national and heavy taxation. Nearly one-half of our synods and presbyteries were cut off from all possibility of coöperation with the Board, even had they desired to coöperate. New and extraordinary claims upon the sympathies and benefactions of the people and the churches were presented and urged. There was a general derangement and depression in many branches of business, the prices of living were unusually high, and there was a consequent prevailing conviction of the need of the most rigid economy in expenditure. All these, and other causes, threatened largely to reduce the receipts of the Board, both from its sales, and from the

contributions of the churches. The warmest friends of the Board felt the necessity for it to avoid all risks, and be prepared for trying emergencies.

But, by the good hand of our God upon us, the Board has been brought safely through all the dangers which appeared to await it. Much of its safety is no doubt attributable to its rigid adherence to the system of cash payments. It has neither borrowed, or in any other way run in debt, and now closes its fiscal year, owing no man a dollar. Its sales have been considerably increased. So have its receipts from contributions. Its gratuitous distributions are far larger than in any previous year, while, in regard to general usefulness, we have much reason to believe that the last year has been the very best in all the history of this Board. The exercise of unremitting care and prudence in expenditure has enabled the Board to have at all times in its treasury a balance, varying in amount from month to month, but sufficient to carry forward successfully all its undertakings. And now, at the beginning of a new fiscal year, it finds both its business and its treasury in a condition which enables it at once to enlarge its operations, both in its publishing and in its colportage departments. This it has already resolved to do. For all these results the Board would record its unfeigned gratitude to God. To his great name be all the praise.

Since the meeting of the last General Assembly, the Board has lost by death two valuable members, viz., the Rev. John McDowell, D. D., of Philadelphia, and Mr. Henry C. Blair, of the same city. It has already recorded on its minutes, its esteem for them as Christian men, and its sense of bereavement in their departure.

We proceed to lay before the Assembly the details of the year's operations.

I. THE DEPARTMENT OF PRODUCTION.

It will be observed that the Board does not report so large an issue of books and tracts as in preceding years. The reason is threefold. 1. The Board began the year with

an ample stock already on hand. 2. The unsettled and depressed condition of the book trade made it inexpedient to incur large expenditures and risks. 3. The enormous price of paper, and the increased prices of labour, of stereotype metal, and of binding materials, made every publication cost much more than in ordinary times.

The Board having, in common with other publishers throughout the country, been compelled, about the first of January, to raise its catalogue prices in order to avoid positive loss, the third reason no longer operates to the same extent. Nor do the other two. Hence the Board has again begun to enlarge its work of publishing books and tracts, and a considerable number of both are now passing through the press.

The Board has issued during the year,

	Copies.
5 new books, of which have been printed	10,000
3 new tracts,	24,000
1 package of 21 soldier's tracts,	3,000
1 hospital card,	20,000
2 packages of leaflets,	6,000
2 German books	700

Total copies of new publications, 63,700

The reprints of former publications during the year have been,

Of books,	226,000
Of tracts,	253,000
Of packages of tracts,	17,000—496,000

Total number of publications during the year, 559,700

Total number of copies of books and tracts issued

by the Board since its organization, 10,790,488

In addition to the above there have been printed during the year,

Of Sabbath-School Visitor,	676,000
Of the Home and Foreign Record,	126,000
Of the Annual Report of the Board,	4,000

And by order of the General Assembly:	Copies.
Of the Revised Book of Discipline,	3,000
Of the Report on the Disabled Ministers' Fund,	2,000
Of the Report on Systematic Benevolence,	3,000
The following is a list of the new publications of the year:	

NEW BOOKS.

Catalogue.

No.

647. *A Good Soldier*. By Rev. A. A. E. Taylor, Dubuque, Iowa. 32mo. Cloth, pp. 64. Price 8 cents. 2000 copies.

It is the same size of the "Soldier's Pocket Book," and intended mainly for circulation among soldiers. Under the figure of a warfare, it presents clearly the great work of securing the salvation of the soul. Its chapters are, I. The Warfare. II. Our Enemies. III. Our Army. IV. The Volunteer. V. Prepared for Service. VI. The Soldier Disciplined. VII. The Soldier Tried. VIII. The Soldier Aided. IX. The Soldier Rewarded. X. Call to the War.

648. *My Brother Ben*. By the Author of Mackerel Will, &c., &c. 18mo., pp. 120. Price 25 and 30 cents. 2000 copies.

An admirable book for youthful readers, containing a truly interesting narrative of an honest and faithful lad, who, by diligence and industry, helped a poor and widowed mother to rear a numerous family, and got them all into positions of respectability and usefulness. The tale is related in a sweet and touching manner, and thoroughly imbued with salutary and scriptural sentiments.

653. *Steps up the Ladder, or The Will and the Way*. 18mo., pp. 126. Price 25 and 30 cents. 2000 copies.

A precious exhibition of the power of Divine grace in the heart of a child, and under the most unfavorable circumstances. A ragged and filthy child, emerging from the home of beggary and crime, under the influences of the gospel, climbs the "steps up the ladder" to respectability and usefulness. A touching narrative.

654. *No Work, No Wages, and other Stories*. 18mo., pp. 180. Price 35 and 40 cents. 2000 copies.

This little volume contains six excellent tales. They are all intended and well adapted to inculcate truly Bible views in reference to industry, truthfulness, and piety. They will well repay a perusal.

656. *Kate Stanley, or the Power of Perseverance*. By Abby Eldridge, Author of "Ella Graham." 18mo., pp. 200. Price 35 and 40 cents. 2000 copies.

Those who have read "Ella Graham" will look only for a book worth reading from the same author. This is a sweet story for the girls, and will convey to those who read it many important lessons. No one who begins the volume, will be willing to lay it aside until it is finished.

NEW 12mo. TRACTS.

- No. 226. *THE CONVERTED SAILOR*. By the Rev. Charles J. Jones. Pp. 8. 5000 copies.

A very interesting narrative of conversion, brought about through the instrumentality of a tract given to a sailor by a little girl. It affords much encouragement to tract distributors.

No. 239. WHERE ARE THE NINE? An Address to Persons recovered from Sickness. Pp. 8. 7000 copies.

An earnest and solemn expostulation against ingratitude to God.

No. 240. AM I A SOLDIER? Pp. 4. 12,000 copies.

A pointed appeal and remonstrance, addressed to a soldier, and well adapted to do him good.

"SOLDIER'S SERIES." No. 2. 21 Tracts. Price 15 cents. 3000 copies.

This is a package of twenty-one tracts, intended for distribution among soldiers. They will all be found well adapted to make deep and profitable religious impressions.

RECRUITING SONG. On Card. Price per hundred, \$1. 20,000 copies.

A capital song for the camp, the Sabbath-school, or anywhere else.

LEAFLETS FOR LETTERS, Nos. 1 and 2, each containing 32 two-page Leaflets, for use in Letters. Price per package, 5 cents. 6000 copies.

Many correspondents are in the habit of inserting a "leaflet" in every letter they write. If well selected, these little messengers of affection may, by the blessing of God, do much good. These packets are varied and well chosen. The several leaflets have reference to almost every phase of human life, and character, and circumstances. Those for the afflicted and bereaved are especially sweet and comforting.

IN GERMAN.

DIE PSALMEN DAVIDS, NEBST EINER SAMMLUNG GEISTLICHER LIEDER FÜR ÖFFENTLICHEN UND PRIVAT-GOTTESDIENST. The Book of Psalms and Hymns in German, Published jointly by the Presbyterian and Reformed Dutch Boards of Publication. 18mo. pp. 600. Price 65 cents net. 500 copies.

"We hereby authorize the use of the German Hymn-Book prepared by the Reformed Dutch Church, in the German congregations belonging to our own branch of the Church."—Action of the General Assembly, *Minutes*, 1855, page 293.

EVANGELISCHE KINDER-HARFE FÜR CHRISTLICHE SCHULEN. A Sabbath-School Hymn-Book in German, containing 197 Hymns, with Music on each page. 232 pages. Price 25 cents. 200 copies.

The following works deserve a more special notice.

A GOOD SOLDIER.

This little volume contains in a very small compass a large amount of religious instruction, conveyed in a form to interest and impress the soldier. We are persuaded that it has gone out on a great and glorious errand. As it becomes better known, larger and larger orders for it are coming from every part of the army.

THE SOLDIER'S POCKET-BOOK.

This little volume is accomplishing a wonderful mission in the army. It was noticed in the last Annual Report, and instances of its great usefulness were given. The

demand for it still continues, and even increases. It would be easy to fill many pages with records of the evidences that God has made large use of it in blessing and saving souls. It is published in both English and German.

“THE SOLDIER’S SERIES” OF TRACTS.

The “Series” No. I. was noticed in the last Annual Report. The Board has recently issued “Series No. II.,” containing twenty-one tracts, selected with especial reference to distribution in the army. For this use they will be found admirably suited. Many thousands of these two packages have already been scattered among the soldiers by colporteurs, chaplains, and others.

The demand for books and tracts, to be read by the soldiers and sailors, has been very large. The Board has endeavoured to meet this demand by carefully selected supplies, which have for their direct aim, to lead their readers to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Into the reading furnished for this use, nothing has been admitted which could justly offend the denominational partialities or prejudices of any reader.

GERMAN HYMN-BOOK.

The last General Assembly directed the Board, “with such assistance as might be needed, to provide, as soon as practicable, a German Hymn-book for the German churches in our connection.” (*Minutes*, p. 599.) The Board has obeyed this direction. The subject was taken up at its first meeting after the adjournment of the Assembly, and an extended correspondence was had with German ministers in our connection. The result was a conviction that the book of Psalms and Hymns already issued by the Board of Publication of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church was better adapted to this use, and more likely to meet the general wishes of our German brethren than any other book the Board could provide. This Hymn-book had already been laid before our General Assembly in the year 1855, and that body had expressly authorized its use in the German

congregations belonging to our own branch of the Church. (*Minutes* of 1855, p. 293.) The Board proceeded to make an arrangement with the Reformed Dutch Board for the issue of this Hymn-book, in 24mo. size, and as cheap as the greatly enhanced prices of paper and binding would allow, bearing upon its title-page the imprint of the two Boards. After using due diligence to issue it at the earliest day practicable, the volume has now been for some months offered for sale. Its title is "*Die Psalmen Davids, nebst einer Sammlung geistlicher Lieder für oeffentlichen und privat-gottesdienst,*" (The Psalms of David, together with a collection of Spiritual Hymns for public and private worship.) The small edition is sold at 65 cents, the 12mo, or pulpit size, \$1.00. We have every reason to believe that this book will meet and satisfy the need of our German churches.

GERMAN SABBATH-SCHOOL HYMN-BOOK.

Under a similar arrangement to the above, the Board is able also to offer to our German churches an excellent German book of hymns and tunes for use in their Sabbath-schools. It is entitled, "*Evangelische Kinder-Harfe für Christliche Schulen,*" (Evangelical Children's Harp for Christian Schools.) It contains 197 hymns, with music on each page, and is sold at 25 cents.

GERMAN PERIODICAL.

The General Assembly of last year also directed the Board "to take into consideration the practicability and best means of securing the publication of a German periodical, and, if practicable, to have it undertaken." (*Minutes*, p. 599.) This direction was taken into consideration by the Board at its next monthly meeting, and after careful inquiry and attention, extending through several months, the Board finally and unanimously resolved, that although "the Board is suitably impressed with the importance of the subject, yet in view of the unsettled state of the country and of business, and especially in view of the enormous prices now charged for paper, and the difficulties attending all new newspaper enterprises, the proposed periodical

could not be undertaken without very heavy pecuniary loss, and that in the judgment of the Board it is at present altogether impracticable to undertake such a publication."

What, however, the Board did not deem it practicable to undertake directly, may be done, in some good degree, indirectly. A communication was received from Rev. John Launitz, a German minister of our body, residing near Pittsburgh, stating that he had, some time before, undertaken to issue, at his own risk, a German periodical, intended chiefly for Sabbath-schools, but also containing religious and missionary intelligence, and asking for assistance. The Board was certified, by several eminent ministers, of the excellent qualifications of Mr. Launitz for his proposed work, and very cheerfully extended the desired aid, by subscribing for five hundred copies for gratuitous distribution. Those of our German churches which desire to procure a periodical in their own language, can do so by addressing Rev. John Launitz at West Manchester, Pennsylvania. We have every reason to believe that his paper will be found worthy of their patronage.

CHEAP SABBATH-SCHOOL LIBRARY.

The last Assembly "recommended to the Board, in view of the present exigencies of the church, to furnish a still cheaper edition of Sabbath-school books." (*Minutes*, p. 604.) The Board has acted upon this recommendation by issuing a Library containing 100 volumes, selected from its Sabbath-school catalogue, in a cheaper but very neat style, which is sold at the very moderate price of *twelve dollars*. Other libraries in the same style will probably hereafter follow.

THE HOME AND FOREIGN RECORD.

The monthly circulation of the *Home and Foreign Record*, which had been diminished about one-third by the stoppage of the Southern mails, was reported to the last Assembly as 10,400 copies. It still continues at the same number. While it is greatly to be regretted that the number of subscribers to this organ of the Boards cannot be greatly enlarged, it is still felt to be indispensable that there

should be some medium by which they may frequently communicate with the ministers and churches. It has during the past year, by an agreement of all the Boards, been reduced from sixteen pages to twelve. And although the receipts for the paper are not sufficient to defray the cost of its publication, free copies being sent to all our ministers and candidates, yet it is believed that, *as a mere advertising agency*, it repays to all the Boards manifold its actual cost.

THE SABBATH-SCHOOL VISITOR.

This monthly paper for Sabbath-schools continues to receive the warm commendations of those who take it. Scarcely ever is there heard a hesitating voice in regard to its excellence. Great care is taken, in regard to its paper, typography, pictures, and reading matter, to furnish the very best.

The number of *Visitors* circulated monthly was reported last year at 55,000 copies. We now have to report the same number.

The enormous rise in the prices of paper last fall compelled an increase in the subscription price. The blank white paper on which the *Visitor* was printed, cost more than the former price of the printed numbers. It was with much reluctance and hesitation that the price was changed; but it was a matter of stern necessity, and we are glad to find that it has not in the slightest degree diminished its circulation.

The Board earnestly bespeaks the aid of pastors, superintendents, and teachers, in extending the circulation and usefulness of the *Visitor*.

ORDERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

By a resolution of the last Assembly, the Board was directed to present, through the proper officers, a set of its publications, to be placed in the Library of the State of Ohio, in token of the Assembly's appreciation of the kindness of the Legislature, in placing its Hall of Representatives at their disposal as a place for meeting. (*Minutes*, p.

641.) The books were duly sent, and letters of grateful acknowledgment returned to the Board from S. G. Harbaugh, Esq., Librarian, and from Governor Tod of Ohio.

The Board would respectfully report to the General Assembly that its orders in regard to printing and distributing the Revised Book of Discipline, the Report of the Committee on Systematic Benevolence, and the Report on the Disabled Ministers' Fund, as well as its orders relating to the payment of the expenses of members of the Revision Committee, and of the Committee of Nine to examine the affairs of the Board, have all been carefully obeyed.

In regard to the Examining Committee of nine appointed by the last General Assembly, at the request of the Board's Corresponding Secretary, the following minute was adopted at its August meeting, viz.

"The Board having been informed that the Committee appointed by the last General Assembly to investigate and report on the general plans and policy upon which the operations of this Board are conducted, are to assemble for said purpose in the city of Philadelphia on the 16th day of September next,

"*Resolved*, unanimously, that they extend to the committee a cordial welcome, and will facilitate their inquiries and investigations in every practicable way, by laying before them all the requisite books and papers, and by affording all needed explanations for a clear and full understanding of the principles and operations of the Board, in such manner as the committee may indicate."

A copy of this resolution was communicated to the committee on its first assembling, and the Board and its officers faithfully sought to carry out the spirit of the resolution during the sessions of the Committee.

II. DEPARTMENT OF DISTRIBUTION.

1. SALES IN THE DEPOSITORY.

During the earlier part of the year the sales were comparatively small, towards the end of the year they greatly

improved. The sales of the year in the Depository have been 175,019 volumes, 570,461 pages of tracts. The net value of these sales was \$25,889.15. This is an increase of 64,043 volumes, and of \$8,909.98 over the sales of the preceding year. This is, of course, exclusive of the sales and distributions made by colporteurs, which may be found elsewhere in this report. The net value of books sent to Theological Seminaries, authors, editors, and to the Ohio State Library, by order of the General Assembly, has been \$338.87. The *catalogue* value of these Depository issues has been \$34,970.69.

All donations and sales, however made through colporteurs or others, are selected, packed, and invoiced in the Depository, and make an important part of its business, although their value is not included above.

2. DISTRIBUTIONS BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Board has a special Fund, entitled its Distribution Fund. This is replenished by donations from individuals, usually made in response to special appeals, and for special objects. All grants from this Fund are made by the Executive Committee, generally in answer to particular appeals. This Fund has no connection with the colportage work; all gratuitous distributions made through the agency of commissioned colporteurs being charged to the Colportage Fund.

The appeals made for grants from this Fund have, last year, been unusually numerous and touching. The Committee have met every deserving solicitation with a grant proportioned to its real claims, and the resources at their disposal. These grants have been as follows:

1. To Mission and other needy Sabbath-schools, 1,782 vols.
2. " Ships and naval and military stations, 13,881 "
3. " Humane institutions, - - - 5,771 "
4. " Ministers, - - - - 85 "
5. " Feeble churches, - - - - 776 "
6. " Individuals for gratuitous distribution, 4,655 "

Total volumes granted,	-	-	26,950
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Pages of tracts granted,	-	-	683,968
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The amount received for this Fund during the year was \$4,104.13. The value of the above grants was \$3,054.35. For many months the Fund was exhausted and overdrawn. Towards the end of the year, contributions from several munificent individuals enabled the Committee to make its grants more freely.

The second, third, and sixth items in the above list, comprehending nearly twenty-five thousand volumes, and the larger half of the tracts, were mainly given to soldiers in the armies, in camps and hospitals, and to the sailors on shipboard and on shore. These volumes and tracts have been given in answer to special appeals from chaplains, officers, and others who were willing to distribute them without charge to the Board. In many cases sums have been remitted for this Fund with express instructions that they should be used in sending books and tracts to particular ships, regiments, or localities. In every such case the greatest pains have been taken to carry out the wishes of the donors. But it must be borne in mind that by far the largest part of our distributions among the sailors and soldiers have been made through the agency of colporteurs, and that all such labours are inserted in the colportage tables found in this Report.

Nearly two thousand volumes have been granted to Mission and other needy Sabbath-schools. Some schools, as we have good reason to believe, have been saved from extinction, while many weak and dwindling ones have received new courage and vigour by the gift of a library of the Board's Sabbath-school volumes. Here a noble and especially appropriate field is opened for the Christian charities of our older and abler Sabbath-schools. Will they not embrace it, and aid us to send our longed-for volumes to many of the less favoured children in our Mission and needy Sabbath-schools?

DISTRIBUTION BY COLPORTAGE.

From many of its most needy and inviting fields for the work of colportage, not only in the Southern, but also in

the Border States, the Board has been practically excluded by the presence of civil war during the past year. Not only so, but where the people were accessible, the unsettled state of the times created much indisposition to purchase books. Many of the colporteurs who had been in the Board's service were either compelled or induced to go into other avocations. Moreover, the balance against the Colportage Fund was still large, and the prospect for receipts during the year was extremely uncertain. In view of all the circumstances, the Board were unanimous in the opinion that it was best for a time to refrain from appointing new colporteurs, except in special cases, and give more prominent attention to other fields of labour, which the providence of God seemed to call them to occupy. Hence, the number of colporteurs who have been in service during the year has been only one hundred and two, or forty-eight less than in the year preceding. Among these the most active and useful have been labouring largely among the soldiers and sailors. But although the number of regularly commissioned colporteurs has been smaller than in former years, hundreds of volunteers among the chaplains, officers, nurses, &c., have been busy, without charge to the Board, in distributing its publications. Probably a larger number of willing hearts and hands have been thus engaged during the past year than in any year of the Board's existence.

When this unhappy civil war began, the Board had a large number of colporteurs scattered throughout the Southern and Southwestern States. What has become of them or of their stock of books, it has been impossible to learn. In a few instances, it is known that their books were distributed among the Confederate troops. In other cases, there is reason to believe that they were confiscated. Meanwhile, the Board has ordered that the entire value of their stock, amounting, at catalogue prices, to \$17,265.13, be placed to a suspense account, until reliable information can be had respecting it.

Of the 102 colporteurs who have been in commission during the year, full reports have been received from only

55. From their reports, we give the following summary of their labors:

They have performed within the year 5503 days, or (allowing 313 working days to a year) 17 years and 182 days of labour.

They have sold 43,947 volumes, and have given away 72,299 volumes. They have also distributed gratuitously 2,399,030 pages of tracts. The number of persons visited and conversed with was 337,314.

These figures show that while the *sales* made by colporteurs have been much smaller, the number of volumes gratuitously distributed is larger by 29,088 than during the year immediately preceding, and more than thrice as large as in any other former year, even when the Board had over two hundred colporteurs in the field. This result is owing to the peculiar nature of the work, as it is largely carried on among the soldiers and sailors, to whom distributions must be almost wholly gratuitous. It is believed that this result is almost wholly in accordance with the wishes of the great majority of donors to the funds of the Board, among whom the request has been very general that their donations last year should be applied to gratuitous distributions among soldiers and sailors.

During the year, the Board has earnestly striven to reach these two classes as far as it was possible. Large quantities of books and tracts have been sent, from time to time, to the regiments in all parts of the great field of war. Packages have been forwarded to Fortress Monroe, Newport News, Port Royal, S. C., Fort Pickens, Ship Island, and New Orleans; also to Harper's Ferry, Cumberland, Md., Frederiek City, Western Virginia, Cumberland Gap, Ky., Nashville, Tenn., Paducah, Mound City, Cairo, Columbus, Ky., Memphis, Helena, Ark., and the neighborhood of Vicksburg. In the army of the Potomac, besides the chaplains, several officers have been earnest and active in distributing our books and tracts. The same has been true in the army at Murfreesboro', Tennessee. At Cum-

berland Gap, General Carter took a lively and most Christian interest in the work while he was there.

The works of the Board have been placed, as far as its opportunities and means extended, on board our national ships, and in the hands of the sailors and workmen about our navy yards. Several naval commanders have solicited supplies for their ships, which have been gladly furnished. Considerable quantities of "The Sailor's Companion" have been supplied to naval officers and chaplains, and it is highly prized by them. We have reason to hope that much good has thus been done to the souls of them that "go down to the sea in ships," good which will never all be known until that day when "the sea shall give up the dead that are in it."

Special attention has been bestowed upon the military hospitals, wherein are found the sick and wounded of our armies. These have presented a wide and inviting field for the distribution of books and tracts. At these hospitals, established in nearly all our cities and larger towns, there have been found chaplains, officers, nurses, and often gentlemen and ladies residing in the vicinity, who have been glad to undertake the work without charge to the Board. Many thousands of volumes, and hundreds of thousands of pages of tracts, have been thus placed in the hands of the sick and wounded.

Nor has the Board overlooked the prisoners in the hands of our Government. Wherever access could be had to them in the east and the west, they have been carefully and to a large extent supplied. Many touching letters have been received, describing their gratitude for the offered book or tract, which was carefully preserved to be carried home to the South when their exchange had been accomplished. Very rarely, indeed, did one of them refuse the proffered gift.

The publications of the Board have gone out through so many channels, that it is difficult to form an accurate estimate of the numbers who have received them. We think it is entirely within bounds to say that *over half a million* of

soldiers and sailors have received from our Depository, in one way or another, a message of saving truth—an invitation to accept of Jesus Christ and eternal life. The Board feels that it is a blessed privilege to be allowed to take part with other similar institutions in this great work.

It is scarcely necessary to advert here to the great eagerness for religious reading exhibited by the soldiers and sailors. So much has been written and published on this subject, that all know how the giver of little books and tracts is pressed upon and entreated, the moment it is known in camp or hospital that he has religious reading to distribute. Let all who have a hand in this work, either as donors or distributors, bless God that he has not only given to so many the ready mind, but has also given to some his converting Spirit. Testimony the most ample comes to us continually, that God greatly blesses his own truth in the camp, in the hospital, and on shipboard, and makes it the power of God unto salvation, to very many souls.

In California, the Rev. S. T. Wells continues to labour as the Board's Superintendent for the Pacific coast. When he went thither, it was the confident expectation and intention that he should have a number of colporteurs under his supervision in California, Oregon, and Washington Territory. The same causes which have retarded our work in the east, have also hindered it on the Pacific. Yet Mr. Wells, having a full stock of our publications in his hands in San Francisco, has been able, in various ways, to place a large amount of religious reading in the hands of the people where it is greatly needed, and where even a little may do vast good. He has made decided progress during the last year, and his sales are growing to be quite important. It ought to be added that a large part of Mr. Wells' salary and expenses has been met by contributions made on the Pacific coast. We hope to see his work and success greatly enlarged next year. Of this there now is decided promise.

In the west, Dr. C. O. Waters has continued his labours indefatigably and most usefully. He has not only attended

to the ordinary duties assigned him, but has made repeated trips down the Mississippi and up the Cumberland and Tennessee rivers, himself distributing large quantities of books and tracts at all important points, and securing the coöperation of chaplains and others in the good work. Man by man, he has supplied tens of thousands with the printed message of eternal truth and life. His services, in every department of the work assigned him, have been large and most valuable.

The Rev. M. G. Knight still superintends the Board's work in Kentucky and Tennessee. His labours also in camps and military hospitals, and among the prisoners, have been very valuable.

Arrived at the end of another fiscal year, the Board is now greatly encouraged to find its Colportage Fund in a better condition than for eight or nine years past, with the prospect of enlarged receipts for the next year daily becoming apparently more reliable. At the same time there is a recent growing demand for our publications. In view of these facts, the Board has already resolved gradually again to enlarge the number of its colporteurs. It enters upon this enlargement with alacrity and joy, feeling that it has a far better prospect of usefulness before it, because of its having narrowed its work within prudent bounds, and nursed its resources during the dark days of the last two years.

The usual tabular statement will be found appended to this Report. Although far less perfect than in former years, owing to the various contingencies which, in these perturbed times have hindered many of our colporteurs from reporting, it will give, as far as they can be given, the details of the work during the year.

TOTAL OF DISTRIBUTION.

Bringing together the various items of distribution, which have above been given separately, the aggregate will be as follows:

Volumes sold at the Depository,	-	-	175,019
Volumes sold by Colporteurs,	-	-	43,947
Volumes given by Colporteurs,	-	-	72,299
Volumes granted by Executive Committee,			26,950
Total of volumes distributed,			318,215
Increase over last year,	-	-	78,281

The pages of tracts distributed are as follows:

By sale at the Depository,	-	-	-	570,461
Gratuitously by Colporteurs,	-	-	-	2,399,030
Granted by Executive Committee,	-	-	-	683,968
Total,				3,653,459
Less than last year,	-	-	-	731,679

In addition to these, the Board has issued,

Copies of the Sunday-school Visitor.	-	-	676,000
“ “ Home and Foreign Record,			126,000
“ of various Reports,	-	-	12,000

Besides Sessional Minutes and Registers, Forms for Systematic Benevolence, Sabbath-school class-books, Sabbath-school tickets, Sheet music, Sheet hymns, Hospital cards, &c., &c., in great numbers.

The *net value* of these issues of the year is as follows:

Sales in the Depository,	-	-	-	\$25,889.15
Sent to Seminaries, Authors, Editors, &c.,				338.87
Sales by Colporteurs,	-	-	-	20,493.02
Home and Foreign Record,	-	-	-	3,864.19
Sabbath-school Visitor,	-	-	-	5,502.51

Total of net value, *\$56,087.74

As this total comprehends amounts representing credit sales and donations, it does not, of course, correspond with the Treasurer's account, which exhibits only cash received.

* The *Catalogue value* of this total would be about \$70,000, the difference being made up of discounts allowed to clergymen, theological students, Sabbath-schools, booksellers, Synodical Depositories, &c.

III. DEPARTMENT OF SUSTENTATION.

The receipts of the Treasury from all sources, excluding, of course, the balance on hand at the beginning of the year, have been \$81,670.93, or \$13,634.93 greater than the year preceding. The aggregate expenditures have been \$71,849.59. The amount of cash received from sales of books, tracts, and periodicals, has been \$50,887.82, an increase of \$10,515.86 over that of last year. The balance in the Treasury at the end of the year is \$15,907.70.

THE COLPORTAGE FUND.

The amount received for Colportage from all sources amounts to \$25,078.35, which exceeds the receipts of last year by \$1,906.54. This amount is the largest ever received in any year from those States which are now coöperating with the Board. It is larger than the total ever received from the entire United States in any year, except 1860 and 1861; and lacks only \$3,355.62 of the receipts of 1861, which were the largest ever made for Colportage in any single year from the entire United States.

The number of contributing churches has this year been 673, which is larger by 166 than the number reported last year. The contributions of churches, apart from legacies and miscellaneous contributions, have exceeded those of last year by \$5,349.39.

The Board takes pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of over one thousand Bibles, valued at \$467.17, from the American Bible Society. These are intended for gratuitous distribution by the colporteurs, when, in places remote from auxiliary Bible Societies, they find individuals destitute of the word of God.

The expenditures for Colportage during the year have been \$18,928.98, besides which the sum of \$6,149.37 has been paid upon the balance due from the Colportage Fund at the close of the previous year. That balance, as reported to the last General Assembly, was \$8,499.66. It is now reduced to \$2,350.29.

The term of office of the following members of the Board will expire in May, 1863, viz.

MINISTERS.				RESIDENCE.			
Benjamin M. Smith, D.D.	.	.	.	Hampden Sidney, Va.	.	.	.
*John McDowell, D.D.	.	.	.	Philadelphia.	.	.	.
William Blackwood, D.D.	.	.	.	Philadelphia.	.	.	.
William S. Plumer, D.D.	.	.	.	Allegheny City.	.	.	.
William D. Snodgrass, D.D.	.	.	.	Goshen, N. Y.	.	.	.
James W. Hoyt,	.	.	.	Nashville, Tenn.	.	.	.
Thomas Smyth, D.D.	.	.	.	Charleston, S. C.	.	.	.
James C. Watson, D.D.	.	.	.	Milton, Pa.	.	.	.
E. P. Humphrey, D.D.	.	.	.	Danville, Kentucky.	.	.	.
William P. Breed,	.	.	.	Philadelphia.	.	.	.
J. N. Campbell, D.D.	.	.	.	Albany, N. Y.	.	.	.
R. J. Breckinridge, D.D., LL.D.	.	.	.	Danville, Kentucky.	.	.	.
R. T. Berry,	.	.	.	Martinsburg, Va.	.	.	.
LAYMEN.				RESIDENCE.			
John Sibley,	.	.	.	Philadelphia.	.	.	.
James B. Ross,	.	.	.	Philadelphia.	.	.	.
Thomas Foster,	.	.	.	Galena, Ill.	.	.	.
James Dunlap,	.	.	.	Philadelphia.	.	.	.
Enoch Taylor,	.	.	.	Germantown, Pa.	.	.	.
Henry McKeen,	.	.	.	Philadelphia.	.	.	.
William A. Ingham,	.	.	.	Philadelphia.	.	.	.
E. Vail,	.	.	.	Troy, N. Y.	.	.	.
E. B. Fuller,	.	.	.	Trenton, N. J.	.	.	.
D. C. Campbell,	.	.	.	Milledgeville, Ga.	.	.	.
Joseph Moorhead,	.	.	.	Abington, Pa.	.	.	.
James T. Young,	.	.	.	Philadelphia.	.	.	.
John E. Gould,	.	.	.	Philadelphia.	.	.	.

A vacancy has been caused by the death of Mr. Henry C. Blair, of Philadelphia, whose term would have expired regularly in May, 1865.

* Deceased.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

REPORT OF JAMES DUNLAP, TREASURER OF THE PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

The Treasurer of the Board of Publication reports that he has received during the year ending
March 1, 1863:

Amount of cash in the Treasury,	\$6,086 36
Amount received from the sale of Books,	41,521 12
Rent of part of Building,	1,527 94
Home and Foreign Record,	3,864 19
Sabbath-School Visitor,	5,502 51
Distribution Fund,	3,790 56
Colportage Fund,	25,078 35
Profit and Loss,	328 22
Insurance,	58 04
	\$87,757 29

That he has disbursed during the same period:

For the Book Department,	\$41,992 03
Home and Foreign Record,	3,868 99
Sabbath-School Visitor,	7,059 59
Colportage,	18,928 98
Balance in Treasury,	15,907 70
	\$87,757 29

As will be particularly set forth in the statement annexed.

Dr. HOME AND FOREIGN RECORD IN ACCOUNT WITH JAMES DUNLAP, TREASURER. Cr.

1863. March 1st.	To Cash paid for Paper, ...	1863. March 1st.	By Cash received of Peter Walker, Balance, ...	Cr.
	Printing, ...	\$1,638 99		\$3,864 19
	" " Folding and Binding, ...	1,033 70		4 80
	" " Salaries, ...	162 59		
	" " Expenses, ...	849 96		
		163 75		
		<u>\$3,808 99</u>		<u>\$3,868 99</u>

Dr. SABBATH-SCHOOL VISITOR, IN ACCOUNT WITH JAMES DUNLAP, TREASURER. Cr.

1863. March 1st.	To Cash paid for Electrotyping, ...	1863. March 1st.	By Cash received of Peter Walker, Balance, ...	Cr.
	" " Paper, ...	\$204 88		\$5,502 51
	" " Printing, ...	4,303 46		1,557 08
	" " Folding, ...	554 20		
	" " Engraving, ...	170 28		
	" " Copyright, ...	44 00		
	" " Salaries, ...	179 50		
	" " Advertising, ...	849 96		
	" " Freight, ...	3 00		
	" " Postage, ...	191 52		
		468 79		
		<u>\$7,059 59</u>		<u>\$7,059 59</u>

Dr. COLPORTAGE FUND, IN ACCOUNT WITH JAMES DUNLAP, TREASURER. Cr.

1863. March 1st.	To Balance of 1862, ...	1863. March 1st.	By Cash received from churches, individuals, and miscellaneous sources, ...	Cr.
	" " To Cash paid Salary of Corresponding Secretary, ...	\$8,499 66		\$25,078 35
	" " " Superintendent of Colportage, ...	1,500 00		2,350 23
	" " Salaries of Colporteurs, ...	6,835 70		
	" " Expenses of Colporteurs, ...	1,861 73		
	" " Freights, ...	727 17		
	" " Donations, ...	6,504 38		
		<u>\$27,428 64</u>		<u>\$27,428 64</u>

THE PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION BOOK-STORE IN ACCOUNT WITH JAMES DUNLAP, TREASURER. Cr.

1863. March 1st.	To Cash paid for Stereotyping,	\$708 09
"	Paper,	8,607 11
"	Printing,	1,927 99
"	Engraving,	304 00
"	Binding,	13,060 06
"	Copyright,	78 10
"	Editor's Salary,	1,200 00
"	Corresponding Secretary's Salary,	1,000 00
"	Treasurer's Salary,	1,000 00
"	Solicitor's Salary,	1,800 00
"	Superintendent of Depository,	2,156 00
"	Book-keeper and Clerks,	111 81
"	Corresponding Secretary's expenses,	284 57
"	Advertising,	1,809 64
"	Books for Orders,	265 22
"	Boxes, Shavings, and Twine,	82 05
"	Freight, Drayage, and Cooperage,	348 73
"	Postage,	596 64
"	Taxes,	617 50
"	Insurance,	77 29
"	Repairs,	37 00
"	Water Rent,	253 83
"	Gas, Fuel, and Ice,	86 03
"	Discount on Uncurrent Money,	99 04
"	Petty expenses,	74 24
"	Stationery,	364 00
"	Porter's Salary,	225 32
"	Deficiency Home and Foreign Record	
"	Expenses of Assembly's orders—	
	Committee of Revision,	301 65
	Examination	244 00
	Allowance on books given away,	545 66
"	Bibles given away,	3,704 34
	Balance of Colportage,	467 17
"	Home and Foreign Record,	2,350 29
"	Sabbath-School Visitor,	4 80
	Balance in the Treasury,	1,557 08
		15,907 70
		\$61,811 90

The undersigned, Committee of Accounts of the Presbyterian Board of Publication, having examined the accounts of the Treasurer, James Dunlap, find them correct, and that the balance in his hands, on the first day of March, 1863, was fifteen thousand, nine hundred and seventy cents.—(\$15,907 70.)

J. STURLEY, } Committee of Accounts.
JAMES T. YOUNG, }

APPENDIX.

THE FOLLOWING TABLES WILL SHOW THE DETAILS OF LABOUR PERFORMED BY COLPORTEURS DURING THE YEAR.

NAMES OF COLPORTEURS.	FIELD.	Days employed.	No. of Vols. sold.	No. of Vols. given.	Pages of Tracts sent.	No. of Persons visited.	Persons conversed and prayed with.	REMARKS.
W. H. Reid—1.	MASSACHUSETTS & NEW HAMPSHIRE.	18	200		7,500			
D. M. Heydrick, James Guthrie, John A. Avery, George Ainslie, Clay McCauley, John Moase—6.	NEW YORK.	86 13 306 60 31 176	1557 115 1866 330 277 615	147 404 15 33 317	1,200 9,000 3,250 15,100 7,180	4,230 300 8,750 2,750 2,280 4,375	3600 100 6835 425 530 1455	
W. F. Wood, C. W. Shultz, G. W. Phelps—3.	NEW JERSEY.	16 12 16	282 140 48		7,500 4,500	1,600 300	1600 200	
W. R. Moore, W. H. Robertson, G. W. Thompson, J. W. Coe,	PENNSYLVANIA.	25 16 10	268 287 492	3 472	7,500 15,000 2,000	310	310	No report.

NAMES OF COLPORTEURS	FIELD.	REMARKS.
John J. Kennedy, G. C. Irwin, Donald McDonald, Samuel Hatriek, James Hood, W. S. Moore—7.	VIRGINIA.	No report.
John H. Wallace, Richard McIlvaine, Thomas Mays, S. A. Preston, R. Stillington, L. C. Vass, N. G. North, L. H. Robinson, J. H. Leps—9.	SOUTH CAROLINA.	
Robert Blakely, D. Harrison—2. W. H. Crane, A. E. Chandler,	FLORIDA.	
Families conversed and prayed with.		
No. of Families visited.		
Pages of Tracts sent.		
No. of Vols. given.		
No. of Vols. sold.		
Days employed.		

NAMES OF COLPORTEURS.	FIELD.	Days employed.	No. of Vols. sold.	No. of Vols. given.	Pages of Tracts sent.	No. of Families visited.	Families conversed and prayed with.	REMARKS.
Thomas Buchanan, George H. Winn, N. W. Smith, Robert Conover, John R. Crum, E. Scudder High, George Donnell, D. T. McIntyre, Charles Reynolds—9.	ILLINOIS.	30	213	39	1,200	500	75	
		26	204	16	1,235	910	550	
		43	146	2	900	1,000	865	
		10	28	2	500	410	60	
		24	235	21	11,800			No Report.
		19	179	132	1,616			No Report.
	MINNESOTA.	301	2232	329	37,457	10,560	2100	
J. F. Buck, A. McCormick, S. Jackson—3.		111	1708	289	7,321	3,070	1245	
Wm. Hamilton—1.	NEBRASKA.	65	553	100	1,600	3,165	1010	No Report.
R. F. Bunting, Thomas P. Gaw—2.	TEXAS.	32		70	400			No Report.
								No Report.

NAME.	OREGON.	WASHINGTON TERRITORY.	CALIFORNIA.	CANADA WEST.	NEW BRUNSWICK.	NOVA SCOTIA.
Henry Beamer—1.						
R. J. Evans—1.						
S. T. Wells—1.						
A. Kennedy, James Robertson, Robert Taylor—3.						
James McKenzie—1.						
Alexander Ferguson—1.						

SUMMARY OF THE FOREGOING TABLES.

NUMBER OF COL- PORTEURS.	STATES IN WHICH EMPLOYED.	Days employed.	Volumes sold.	Volumes given.	Pages Tracts sent.	Persons visited.	Persons con- versed and prayed with.	REMARKS.
1	{ New Hampshire and	18	200		7,500			
6	{ Massachusetts.	672	4760	916	35,730	22,685	12,945	
3	New York.	44	470	7	12,000	1,900	1,800	
14	New Jersey.	757	6037	12,984	379,495	35,215	19,690	
2	Pennsylvania.	404	1967	562	53,958	11,845	2,515	
6	Delaware and Maryland.	114	643	33	3,863	1,820	370	
3	Ohio.	263	3615	6,604	152,562	8,169	1,345	
1	Indiana.	10	92		6,000			No Reports.
7	Michigan.							"
9	North Carolina.							"
2	Virginia.							"
4	South Carolina.							"
4	Florida.							
4	Georgia.							
6	Alabama.							
2	Kentucky	460	395	13,459	652,500	67,000	20,750	No Report.
2	Tennessee.							
1	Missouri.	14	148			1,245	1,245	
6	Iowa.	946	5925	34,194	806,133	147,135	79,760	
9	Illinois.	453	3237	541	54,708	13,580	3,650	
3	Minnesota.	176	2261	389	8,921	6,235	2,255	
1	Nebraska.		32	70	400			
2	Texas.							No Reports.
1	Oregon.							"
1	Washington Territory.	365	6002	2,126	161,480			
1	California.	761	7963	324	62,680	18,450	5,005	
3	Canada West.	44	163	90	1,100	2,235	2,000	
1	New Brunswick.							
1	Nova Scotia.	2	37					
Total, 102	States and Territories 27, British	5503	43,947	72,299	2,399,030	337,314	153,330	
47 of whom did not	Provinces, 3.							
report.								

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS FOR THE COLPORTAGE FUND,

FROM MARCH 1, 1862, TO MARCH 1, 1863.

The work of *publishing* Books and Tracts is carried forward upon a capital contributed, several years ago, for that specific purpose, to which it is wholly and sacredly devoted. The churches are called on to contribute nothing *for the publishing department of the Board*; but as nothing can be drawn away from the publishing department for other uses, the Board is obliged to depend wholly on the contributions of the churches and benevolent individuals for the supply of its Colportage Fund. These contributions, therefore, are indispensable for the following uses, viz.

1. To pay the Salaries and Expenses incident to Colportage.
2. To pay for the large amount of Books and Tracts gratuitously distributed by Colporteurs.

Just in proportion, and *only* in proportion, as the Churches annually contribute to this Fund, is the Board able to do these things.

The following table will exhibit the receipts of the last year.

SYNOD OF ALBANY.		Amsterdam Village	28 52	<i>Pby of Siam.</i>	
<i>Pby of Londonderry.</i>		Northampton		Bangkok	
		Northville			
		Johnstown	28 07	SYNOD OF BUFFALO.	
Londonderry	\$15 60	Galway	11 00	<i>Pby of Ogdensburgh.</i>	
Bedford		Ballston Spa	16 69	Rossie	
Windham		Guilderland		1st Oswegatchie	60 25
New Boston		Mariaville	6 00	2d Oswegatchie	10 45
Antrim		West Galway	8 07	Morristown	
Litchfield		Saratoga Springs	20 95	Hammond	
Newburyport 1st	63 50	Charlton	6 00	1st Le Ray	
East Boston		Little Falls		1st Wilna	
Boston 1st		Ballston		1st Heuvelton	
Manchester		Kingsboro'			
Newburyport 2d	30 00	Windsor			
		Albany 3d			
	109 10	Jewett	16 00		70 70
<i>Pby of Troy.</i>		Canaan Centre	5 00	<i>Pby of Genesee River.</i>	
		Rockwell's Falls	2 20	Groveland	7 07
Second Troy		Conklinville		Caledonia 1st	8 50
Second St Troy	84 67	Tribes Hill		1st Sparta	9 00
Park, Troy	44 06	West Milton	3 00	2d Sparta	5 00
Third Troy		Hamilton Union	40 00	Bath	31 59
Green Island		Princetown		Warsaw	31 51
Lansingburgh	77 30	New Scotland		Wyoming	4 43
Waterford	54 00	Carlisle	15 00	Moscow	
Cambridge	20 00	Esperance	4 00	Portageville	
Sandy Hill	5 00	Duanesburgh 1st		Oakland	4 00
Fort Edward		Bethlehem		Tuscarora	9 00
Fort Miller		Broadalbin		Central Genesee	26 00
Caldwell		Stockport		Cameron	
Malta	3 00				
Stillwater	10 50		417 80		
Bolton		<i>Pby of Mohawk.</i>			136 10
		Oswego 1st	188 44	<i>Pby of Buffalo City.</i>	
<i>Pby of Albany.</i>		Durhamville		Central	16 00
	298 53	Syracuse Park Central	36 50	Alden	
		Oneida		Bethany Centre	
Mayfield Central		Oneida Valley	7 00	Calvary	5 00
Albany 2d	84 34	Westminster, Utica	85 96	1st Tonawanda	
Albany 1st	77 96			East Aurora	
Schenectady	45 00		317 90	Second Ward	

Black Rock
Pendleton and Wheatfield
1st Holland
Darlen
Portageville

Pby of North River.

Newburgh 1st 77 75
Bethlehem 18 00
Smithfield
Kingston 17 00
Marlboro' 23 00
New Hamburg
Rondout 40 00
Matteawan 50 00
Cold Spring
Hughsonville
Wappinger's Falls
Calvary
Fishkill
Little Britain 10 60
Middle Hope 10 00

Northwest
Jersey City 1st 67 78
Grand Street
Forty-second St 18 51
Mission Chapel
West 23d Street
Throg's Neck
Twenty eighth Street
Madison Avenue 35 00
Fifteenth Street
Fortieth St Station
Mariner's Independent
Greenbush
Seventh Avenue
Jersey City 3d
Yorkville
North Haverstraw
Eighty-fourth Street
Bloomingtondale
Waldberg
Clifton 27 00

Pby of Michigan.

2d Bennington
1st Plymouth 6 00
Bennington
Oakland
Westminster, Detroit 22 50
1st Pontiac 7 00
2d Plymouth
Bruce
Lyon
Meridian
1st Independence
St. John's
Hudson
Nankin
Central

Pby of Bedford.

Greenburg
Patterson
Rye
South Salem 27 50
Mount Kisco 7 64
South Greenburg 12 26
Yorktown
Southeast Centre
Port Chester
White Plains
Bedford 19 20
Gilead
North Salem 5 00
Southeast
Red Mills 8 00
Croton Falls
Poundridge 10 00

Pby of New York 2d.

Scotch 5 00
Mt Washington
Stanton Street
Washington Heights
Canal Street
Sing Sing 40 00
Peekskill 33 00
Delhi
Hamden
West Farms
Scotch, Jersey City

Pby of Rochester City.

East Bethany
Rochester 3d
East Williamson
Webster
Wheatland
Rochester 1st
West Greece
North State Street
Calvary
Port Byron
St. Peter's, Rochester 29 00
Seneca 22 00
Westminster
Phelps 9 00
Charlotte

Pby of Long Island.

Setauket
Islip
West Hampton
Speonk
Sag Harbor
Sweet Hollow 5 00
Moriches
East Hampton 41 68
Middletown 8 20
Huntington 23 30
Bridge Hampton
Bellport
South Haven
Smithtown 7 51
Huntington South 14 17
Southampton 6 00
Fresh Pond
Brookfield
Amagansett 3 00

Pby of Connecticut.

Hartford 1st 5 00
Tariffville
Deep River
Thompsonville
Providence
Bridgeport
Rye 30 52

Pby of Hudson.

Washingtonville 20 33
Goshen 25 21
Middletown
Monticello
Milford
Centreville
Hopewell
West Town
Hempstead
White Lake
Liberty
Hamptonburg 28 00
Florida
Goodwill
Monroe
Deerpark
Scotchtown
Bloomingtonburgh
Jeffersonville, German
Callicoon
Cochection
Damascus
Rockland 1st

Pby of New York.

Brick
Bridgeport
Westminster
New York 1st 2391 32
University Place
5th Av and 19th St 1796 23
Rutgers St 20 00
Chelsea 34 00
German 5 00
Nyack 20 00

Pby of Nassau.

Wallabout, Brooklyn 15 74
Roslyn
Freeport
Newtown
Central, Brooklyn 46 08
Astoria 3 00
Hempstead
Jamaica 37 50
Brooklyn 1st 598 00
German, Williamsburg 4 00
South 3d St. do.
Brooklyn 2d 182 64
Green Avenue, Brooklyn
Hicksville
Oyster Bay
Lawrence St., Brooklyn 1 00
Williamsburg 1st 36 75

Pby of Canton.

Canton, China

<i>Pby of Ningpo.</i>	New Brunswick 2d	1 36	Flemington	
Ningpo	Religious Contribution		Frenchtown	
	Soc. of Theol. Sem. at		Kingwood	
	Princeton	24 50	Solebury	5 00
			Forestville	
<i>Pby of Western Africa.</i>		556 57	Amwell 1st	
Monrovia 1st	<i>Pby of West Jersey.</i>		Rosemont	
Greenville 1st	Greenwich	64 50	Tinicum	
Clay Ashland 1st	Cold Spring	5 00	Amwell 6th	7 00
Mount Prospect	Bridgeton 1st		Ringoes 1st	
Caldwell	Salem			52 95
	Williamstown	5 42		
SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY.	Fislerville	3 60	<i>Pby of Susquehanna.</i>	
	Woodbury		Burlington	
<i>Pby of Elizabethtown.</i>	Cedarville	23 00	Towanda	24 44
Lamington	Bridgeton 2d	12 00	Orwell	
Elizabeth 1st	Pittsgrove	30 00	Rome	1 00
Pluckamin	Cape Island		Wyalusing and Herrick	5 00
Perth Amboy	Black woodtown	5 00	Stevensville	
Liberty Corner	Woodstown		Wyalusing 2d	4 00
Rahway 1st	Swedesborough		Sullivan	
New Providence	Deerfield	11 00	Warren	
Baskinridge	Millville	3 00	Silver Lake	
Elizabetsport	May's Landing	6 00	Friendsville	
Westfield	Leed's Point	3 00	Wysox	5 00
Woodbridge 1st	Absecon		Troy	7 00
Rahway 2d	Cape May Co. 2d		Elkland	
Metuchin 1st	Cape May C. H.		Canton	
New Vernon	Brainerd		Crawfordsville	
Plainfield 1st		170 92	Rush	
German, Meyersville	<i>Pby of Newton.</i>		Monroeton	
	Pleasant Grove		Meshoppen	
	Mansfield 2d		Brookfield	
<i>Pby of Passaic.</i>	Greenwich		Knoxville	
Elizabeth 2d	Musconetcong Valley		Osceola	46 44
Mount Freedom	Stillwater	5 00		
Cbatham Village	Swartswood		<i>Pby of Luzerne.</i>	
Springfield	Harmony		Plymouth	
Morristown 2d	Yellow Frame		Wilkesbarre	60 00
Connecticut Farms	Marksboro'		Summit Hill	5 00
Paterson 1st	Stewartsville	24 05	German Presbyterian ch	
Morristown 1st	Blairstown	29 00	of Scranton	2 50
Newark 3d	Mansfield 1st	5 00	Newton	
Lyons Farms	Belvidere 1st	49 00	Northmoreland	
Mount Olive	German Valley		Mahoopany Creek	
Flanders	Shawnee		Pottsville	5 00
Chester	Middle Smithfield		Scranton	152 25
German, Paterson	Oxford		Pittston	38 00
	Danville		Tunkhannock	
	Stroudsburg		Eckley	3 00
<i>Pby of New Brunswick.</i>	Newton	78 53	White Haven	
Bound Brook	Lower Mount Bethel	6 00	Port Carbon	
Kingston	Hope		Hazleton	
Princeton 1st	Knowlton		Kingston	7 11
Pennington	Hackettstown	35 19	Wyoming	2 37
Hightstown	Upper Mount Bethel		Conyngham	
Trenton 1st	Phillipsburg	21 94	Mauch Chunk	5 50
Cranberry 2d	Bloomsbury		Weatberly	
Princeton 2d	Andover		Gnadenhutzen	
Trenton 2d	Fox Hill		Tamaqua	5 00
New Brunswick 1st	Asbury	3 00	Nanticoke	
Lawrence		256 71	Schuykill Valley	
Titnsville	<i>Pby of Raritan.</i>		Beaver Meadow	
Cranberry 1st	Amwell United 1st		Bald Mount	
Trenton 3d	Lambertville	28 70		255 73
Trenton 4th	Clinton		<i>Pby of Burlington.</i>	
Witherspoon street	Milford		Allentown	30 00
Hamilton Square	Holland		Bordentown	
Dutch Neck	Amwell 2d	12 25	1st Ch Camden	9 46
Ewing				

Mount Holly		Charlestown		Middle Octorara	
Columbus	6 50	Welsh		Lancaster	
Tuckertou		Hestonville		Mount Joy	
Medford		Penn	5 00	Columbia	
Burlington				Union	
2d Ch Camden	9 00		230 42	Cedar Grove	6 00
Beverly				Hopewell Centre	
Plumstead		<i>Pby of Philadelphia 2d.</i>		Stewartstown	
		Abington		Waynesburg	
	54 96	Norristown 1st	20 00	Slate Ridge	
<i>Pby of Monmouth.</i>		Easton 1st	10 00	Pine Grove	
Millstone	5 00	Allen Township		Mount Nebo	
Middletown Point		Catasqua		New Harmony	
Shrewsbury		Doylstown & Deep Run	19 50	Leacock and Bellevue	31 25
Tom's River		Port Kennedy		Strasburg	
Village Ch Freehold	42 82	Norriton & Providence	5 00	Bellevue	7 54
Manalapan		Brainerd			70 79
Tennent Church		Chestnut Hill	18 00	<i>Pby of Huntingdon.</i>	
Red Bank	10 00	Bristol	8 87	Bellefonte	33 00
Jamessburg	17 00	Bensalem		Lewistown	
Cedar Creek		Centreville		Shavers Creek	
Manchester		Newportville		Mifflintown & Lost Creek	50 00
Squaw Village	18 00	Frankford	36 00	Mosbaunon & Morris	
		Germantown 1st	200 08	Lick Run	
		Bridesburgh	17 00	Little Valley	15 00
	92 82	Holmesburgh	7 64	Lower Tuscarora	104 50
<i>Pby of Corisco.</i>		Roxborough	4 72	Sinking & Spring Creek	
Evangasimba Ch	10 00	Falls of Schuylkill		East Kishacoquillas	
		Pottstown		Martinsburg	
		Germantown 2d		Yellow Creek	
	10 00	Neshaminy	8 10	Middle Tuscarora	25 50
		Slatington	5 00	Spruce Creek and	
		Morrisville		Sinking Valley	21 40
SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA.		Newtown	31 00	Hollidaysburg	80 00
		Norristown 2d		Fruit Hill and	
<i>Pby of Philadelphia.</i>			390 91	Mount Pleasant	
Philadelphia 10th	552 91	<i>Pby of New Castle.</i>		Altoona	
do 4th	60 00	Penningtonville		Shirleysburg	3 00
do 9th		Forks of Brandywine		Waynesburg and	
do 6th	25 00	Red Clay Creek		Newton Hamilton	
Ridley	4 00	Kennett Square	7 00	Unity	
Middleton and Media	5 00	Coatesville		East Freedom	
Cohocksink		Faggs Manor	15 00	Williamsburg	
West Spruce St	216 50	New London	20 00	Clearfield	10 25
Arch Street		Lower Brandywine	23 29	Curwinsville	
Seventh	123 22	North East		Milroy	11 00
Mariners'		New Castle		West Kishacoquillas	
Philadelphia 15th	20 43	Port Deposit		Alexandria	
Westminster		White Clay Creek }	16 00	Huntingdon	
Southwark		Head Christiana }		Pine Grove	
Chester	27 43	Newark		Bald Eagle	
Gloucester, N. J.		Zion		Little Auchwick	
Moyamensing	10 00	Green Hill and Rockland		Upper Tuscarora	
1st African		Lowes West Nottingham		Birmingham	27 52
Soots		Rock		Tyrone	12 48
Union		Oxford and Upper		Logan's Valley	10 00
Crookville		West Nottingham		Beulah	
		Upper Octorara		Phillipsburg	
	1044 49	Doe Run		Luthersburg	
<i>Pby of Philad'a Central.</i>		1st Ch Wilmington		Bradford	
Spring Garden	16 63	Smyrna		Cottage	
Belmont		Oakland Seminary	5 00		403 65
West Arch St				<i>Pby of Northumberland.</i>	
Central	36 00		91 29	Nippenose	
Princeton		<i>Pby of Donegal.</i>		Mahoning	68 61
Alexander		Chestnut Level and		Lycoming	
Kensington	45 00	Little Britain		Linden	
North	41 85	Pequea		Milton	20 00
Philadelphia 2d	50 00	Marietta		McEwensville	
Richmond 1st		Chanceford	9 00	Buffalo	13 58
Southwestern		Slateville	9 00	Shamokin	
Great Valley	35 94	Wrightsville & Donegal	8 00	Elysburg	
Phoenixville					

Lycoming Centre		Hill, and Wells' Valley		Laurel	
Bloomsburg		St. Thomas and Rocky		Barren Creek	
New Columbia		Spring		Buckingham and Eden	
Lewishurg		Silvers' Spring	28 00	Cool Spring	
Washington	10 35	Shippenshurg	54 00	Black Water	
Bald Eagle and Nittany		Clear Spring		Indian River	
Jersey Shore		Monaghan and Peters-		Georgetown	
Williamsport	32 46	burg		Snow Hill	
Washingtonville }	16 00	Cumberland		Pitts Creek and New-	
Derry }	4 00	Paxton and Derry		town	
Great Island		Hanover		Dover	
Muncy		Middle Spring		Church Hill	
Sunbury and }	9 76	Hancock		Old Brick	
Northumberland }		Greencastle and		Crumpton	
Mahoning North		Waynesboro	57 00	Lewes	
Warrior Run	7 25	Big Spring			
Chillisquaque	20 25	Upper Path Valley	21 50	<i>Pby of Potomac.</i>	
Mooreshurg	6 25	Carlisle	75	Annapolis	
Berwick		Williamsport and		New York Ave. Wasb.	
Brier Creek		Welsh Run		Neelsville and Darnes-	2 00
Ashland		Bedford		town }	
Gordon		Millerstown and		Bridge St., Georgetown	36 00
Shamokintown		Buffalo	5 37	7th street, Washington	11 00
Holland Run		Bloomfield, Sherman's		Bladensburg	
Treverton		Creek, and Mouth of		Alexandria 1st	
New Berlin	1 30	Juniata		Warrenton	
Mifflinburg		Landisburg, Centre, and		Greenwood	
Hartleton	7 25	Upper	5 00	Rappahannock	
Rohrshurg		Great Conewago and		Yellow Chapel	
Orangeville		Lower Marsh Creek	24 00	Lewinsville	
Sugar Loaf		Chambersburg		Salem	
Pennsdale		Lower Path Valley	8 00	Prince William 1st	
	217 06	and Burnt Cabins	4 00		
		Hagerstown			49 00
SYNOD OF BALTIMORE.		Gettysburg	16 85	SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.	
<i>Pby of Baltimore.</i>		Middletown		<i>Pby of Redstone.</i>	
1st Ch Baltimore	5 00	Schellsburg		Tent	
Parkton		Dickinson		West Newton	
Mt Paran and Springfield		Harrisburg	140 17	Laurel Hill and Tyrone	
Ellicott's Mills		Fayetteville		Dunlap's Creek	7 30
Baltimore 2d	48 86	Frostburg	364 64	McClellandtown	5 00
Govane Chapel	14 00	Barton		Petersburgh	
Annapolis	12 00			Harmony	8 00
Betbel		<i>Pby of Winchester.</i>		New Providence and	
Chestnut Grove		Romney		Jefferson	
Aisquith Street		Springfield		Sewickley	
South Ch Balt		Patterson's Creek		Mount Washington	
Franklin St Balt		Mount Bethel		Rehoboth	
Baltimore 3d		North River		Morgantown	35 76
Baltimore 4th		Falling Water		Stewart Run	
Westminster	160 00	Stone Church		Connellsville	31 75
Taneytown	20 00	Charlestown		Brownsville	1 75
New Windsor		Moorefield		Uniontown	23 00
Frederick	11 25	Bloomery		Long Run	15 00
Madison Street		Gerrardstown		George's Creek	
Broadway		Tuscarora		Round Hill	
Baltimore 12th		Winchester		McKeesport	
Harmony		Berryville		Kingwood and Spring-	
Central Baltimore		Harper's Ferry		hill	
Havre de Grace		Mount Zion		Mount Pleasant	50 75
Bell-Air & Franklinville		Mount Hope		Clarkshurg	
Baltimore 5th		Piedmont		Somerset and Jenner	
Churchville		Front Royal		Fairmont and Smith-	
Warren		Concord		town	
		Smithfield		Sandy Creek	
	271 11	Martinsburg		Tyrone	
<i>Pby of Carlisle.</i>		<i>Pby of Lewes.</i>		<i>Pby of Ohio.</i>	183 31
Tom's Creek and Piney		Manokin		Mingo	
Mercersburg		Rehoboth		Mount Carmel	
McConnellsburg, Green		Wicomico			

	14 25	SYNOD OF ALLEGHENY.	SYNOD OF WHEELING.
Miller's Run			
Long Island	9 75	<i>Pby of Allegheny.</i>	<i>Pby of Washington.</i>
Sharon's Valley		Union 10 00	Wheeling 1st 31 12
East Liberty		Brady's Bend 8 00	Cross Creek 5 75
Bethel		Plain Grove 8 00	Pine Grove
Centre		Porterville 5 00	East Buffalo
Fairview			Upper Buffalo 20 02
Lawrenceville			Pigeon Creek
21 ch Pittsburgh		31 00	Lower Buffalo 1 50
Central ch do.	11 00		Claysville 3 00
Canonsburg		<i>Pby of Beaver.</i>	Frankfort
West Elizabeth		Neshanock	Forks of Wheeling 23 00
Monongahela City		New Castle 10 00	Washington 33 81
4th ch Pittsburgh		Mount Pleasant 10 00	Fairview
Bethlehem and North Branch			Wheeling 4th 50 00
Racoon			Three Springs 5 00
6th ch Pittsburgh			New Cumberland 9 00
Hopewell		<i>Pby of Erie.</i>	Cove
Concord		Meadville 34 25	West Alexander 12 60
1st ch Pittsburgh		Franklin	Hookstown
Lebanon		Coolspring	Mill Creek
Mansfield		Salem	Lower Ten Mile 5 00
Chartiers		Gravel Run 1 00	Wheeling 2d
Bethany		Washington	Unity
Montours		Georgetown 12 25	Waynesburg
Maple Creek		Fairfield 11 80	West Union
Mount Washington	9 00	Park Church, Erie 63 00	Sistersville
Temperanceville	12 53	Mercer	Upper Ten Mile
		Teacher	Mount Prospect
	56 53	Fairview	Burgettstown
<i>Pby of Saltsburg.</i>		Sturgeonville 4 00	Wheeling 3d 3 51
Harmony		Girard	Allan Grove 2 25
Crooked Creek	2 00	Mill Creek	Wolf Run 2 00
Eldersridge	15 00	Sugar Creek 5 00	Cross Roads
Saltsburg	40 00	Warren	Wellsburg 8 00
Clarksburg	4 00	W. Greenville	Pennsboro'
		Concord 7 00	Bethel
		Deerfield	Hughes' River
		Conneautville	Elizabethtown
	61 00	Harmonsburch	West Liberty 2 00
<i>Pby of Blairsville.</i>		Evansburgh	New Martinsville
Poke Run		Greenfield	Harrisville
Greensburg	10 00	Sandy Lake	
Congruity		Mount Pleasant	
Unity		Waterloo	
New Alexandria		Sugar Grove	<i>Pby of Steubenville.</i>
Cross Roads		Irvine	Still Fork
Blairsville		Milledgeville	Waynesburg 3 00
Ligonier and Donegal		Harbour Creek	Oak Ridge 4 35
Beulah		Oil City 3 75	Steubenville 1st 8 14
New Salem		New Vernon 5 00	Minerva 3 00
Murraysville			Carrollton
Harrison City			New Harrisburgh
Ebensburg		<i>Pby of Allegheny City.</i>	Harlem
Fairfield and Union		Allegheny 1st	Bloomfield 2 40
Salem		Central Ch Allegheny	New Hagerstown 8 00
Johnstown		City 50 00	Kilgore
Livermore	19 36	Beaver	Two Ridges
Armagh		Pine Creek	Cross Creek
Centreville		Fairmount	Ridge
New Salem		Cross Roads	Centre Unity 30 00
Somerset and Janner		Manchester	Corinth 8 50
		Sewickley	Monroeville 2 00
		Freedom	Island Creek 2 00
	29 36	Concord	Bacon Ridge 5 72
<i>Pby of Clarion.</i>		Bridgewater	East Springfield 9 00
Brookville	11 41	Highlands	Richmond
Academia	3 00	Sharpsburg	Annapolis 4 00
Licking	10 00	Deer Creek	Amsterdam
Pisgah	5 00	First German Church,	Wellsville
		Manchester	New Cumberland 2 47
		German Ch of Rochester	Big Spring
			Fairmount 2 45
	29 41		Deersville
			Feed Spring
		66 85	

Staubenville 2d	6 00	Wortbington		Cambridge	
Betlehem	2 00	London	3 00	Salt Creek	
Centre		Mount Pleasant	15 00	Duncan's Falls	3 75
		Lancaster	11 69	Muskingum	
	123 03	Blendon and Mifflin		Madison	
<i>Pby of New Lisbon.</i>		Lithopolis		Rush Creek	
Deerfield	10 25	Sciota		Bethel	
Concord		Mount Sterling		Salem, German	10 00
Poland	4 25	Grove City		Bristol	
Middle Sandy		Hamilton		Marietta	
Madison		Groveport		Brownsville	
Pleasant Valley		Lower Liberty	1 35	Uniontown	
Bethel		Amanda		Mount Pleasant	
Salem		Tarlton		Hebron	
Canfield		Dublin		Cross-Roads	
New Lisbon		Columbus, Welch		Beulah	2 00
Hanoverton		Hopewell		Cosbocton	10 00
Bethesda			83 04		77 45
Newton		<i>Pby of Marion.</i>		<i>Pby of Richland.</i>	
Rehoboth		Delaware 1st	6 25	Milford	
Yellow Creek		Corinth	65	Perrysville	
Longs Run		Larue		Clear Fork	
Liberty		Osceola		Martinsburg	
East Liverpool	5 00	York	4 00	Mount Pleasant	
East Palestine		Broken Sword		Lexington	1 75
Champion		Kingston		Bloomfield	
Niles	9 00	Liberty		Hayesville	
Brookfield		Brown		Ashland	18 96
Boardman		Iberia	21 00	Mount Vernon	
Clarkson		Eden		Bladensburg	
Alliance		Nevada	3 21	Savannah	15 85
New Salem		Crestline		Orange	5 51
Coitsville	1 50	Leesville		Chesterville	
Glasgow	30 00	Marseilles		Harmony	
<i>Pby of St. Clairsville.</i>		Union		Shelby	7 00
Mount Pleasant		Marion		Olivesburg	
Kirkwood		Canaan		Blooming Grove	
Concord		Marysville	3 03	Mansfield	
Nottingham		Pisgah		Fredericktown	
St. Clairsville		Radnor		Waterford	1 40
Morristown		Bucyrus		Ontario	6 00
Fairview		Sandusky		Utica	3 38
Beech Springs		Wyandott		Bellville	2 00
Cadiz		Little Mill Creek		Millwood	
Short Creek	4 15	Richland		Lucas	
Wheeling Valley		Mount Gilead	14 00	Loudonville	
Crab Apple	2 00	Upper Sandusky		Lake Fork	
Woodfield		Salem		East Union	
Buchanan		Cardington		Jeromeville	
Rockhill		Gallion			61 85
Antrim		New Winchester		<i>Pby of Wooster.</i>	
Birmingham		Sunbury		Apple Creek	9 50
Grandview		Waynesburg	2 50	Jackson	15 80
Brownsville		Milford Centre	54 64	Wooster	59 63
Bealsville				Sugar Creek	
Wegee		<i>Pby of Zanesville.</i>		Canal Fulton	6 00
Powhattan		Pleasant Hill		Millersburg	8 00
Barnesville		Norwich	2 00	Holmesville	2 00
Stillwater		Mount Zion		Chippewa	4 00
Freeport		Hopewell		Marshallsville	2 00
Pipe Creek Bethel		Deerfield		Congress	8 51
New Castle		Oakfield		West Salem	1 49
Martinsville	7 00	Sunday Creek		Mount Hope	9 00
	13 15	Newark		Green	
<i>SYNOD OF OHIO.</i>		Zanesville 2d	11 00	Wayne	
<i>Pby of Columbus.</i>		Olive		Chester	
Westminster		Washington	26 10	Dalton	34 00
Circleville		Seneca		Mt. Eaton	10 00
Truro	2 00	McConnellsville	2 00	Berlin	16 65
Columbus 1st	50 00	Buffalo	10 60		186 58
		Zanesville 1st			

<i>Pby of Coshocton.</i>		Eckmansville	3 00	Harrison	
East Hopewell		Piketon		Bethel	
Nashville		Leesburg		Riley	
Keene and Clarke		Sinking Spring		Venice	
West Carlisle		Brush Creek		Camden	
Jefferson		White Oak		Oxford 1st	
Wakatomica		Bethel		South Providence	
Valley		French church		Harmony	
Coshocton				Wiuchester	
Linton			69 37		
New Philadelphia		<i>Pby of Miami.</i>		<i>Pby of Sidney.</i>	40 23
Urichsville		Dick's Creek		Bellevontaine	7 00
Unity		Dayton 1st		Logansville and Degraff	
Evans' Creek		Clifton		Mount Johnson	
West Bedford		Xenia		Sidney	
		Middletown		Urbana	
<i>Pby of Hocking.</i>		Dayton 3d		West Liberty	
Alexander		Monroe		Piqua	
Millfield		New Jersey	16 00	New Salem	
Rutland		Springfield	15 00	Buck Creek	16 36
Sutton		Franklin	66	Stoney Creek	15 00
Mount Carmel		Pleasant Valley		Cherokee	
New Plymouth		Sinking Creek	15 00	Belle Centre	
East Plymouth		Miami City 1st		Troy	
McArthur		Greenville		St Mary's	2 50
Decatur		Bath		Wapakoneta	
Barlow		Washington		Zanesfield	
Burlington		Carrolton	1 66	Hill Grove	
Gallipolis		Bellbrook		Newton	
Athens	10 00	South Charlestown		Salem	
		Mount Pleasant	2 00	Covington	
		Springfield 2d	52 38		
	10 00				40 86
<i>Pby of Western Reserve.</i>			102 70	<i>Pby of Maumee.</i>	
Springfield		<i>Pby of Cincinnati.</i>		Delta	
Guilford		Felicity		Bryan	
Tiffin 1st		Ebenezer		Mount Salem	
McCutchenville		Pleasant Ridge	6 90	Unity	
Corisco		Cincinnati 1st	1 00	Gilead	
Westminster		Feesburg		Bethel	
Northfield	11 00	Hopewell		Toledo 1st	
Bedford 1st		Lebanon		Hicksville	
Caroline		Walnut Hills 1st		Union	
Sandusky 1st		Cincinnati 9th		Denmark	
Green Spring		Cincinnati 7th	100 00	West Bethesda	
Lafayette		Cincinnati Central		Eagle Creek	
		Pleasant Run		Macomb	
	11 00	Springfield	15 79		
SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.		Williamsburg		<i>Pby of Findlay.</i>	12 61
<i>Pby of Chillicothe.</i>		Bethel		Findlay	
Hillsborough	55 20	Goshen		Riley Creek	
Greenfield		Loveland		Ottawa	
Washington		Reading		Johnstown	
Salem	2 00	Cincinnati 5th		Rockport	
Concord		Cumminsville		Truro	
Wilmington		Mount Carmel		Shannon	
Bainbridge		Monroe		Van Wert	
1st ch Chillicothe		Cheviot	3 00	Shanesville	
Bloomingsburg		Somerset	16 00	Lima	
Pisgah		Glendale 1st		Little Grove	
Union	3 67	Monterey		Blanchard	
Greenland			142 69	Enon Valley	
Red Oak	5 50	<i>Pby of Oxford.</i>		Arcadia	
Palace Hill		Salem		West Union	
Newmarket		7 Mile and Somerville		Patterson	
Mount Leigh		Beaula		Forest	
Rocky Spring		North Providence		Delphos	
Cynthiana		College Corner		Kalido	
Marshall		Hamilton	40 23	Pleasantville	
West Union		Eaton		Kenton	
Manchester		Oxford 3d		Mount Blanchard	
		New London			12 61

SYNOD OF INDIANA.		<i>Pby of Indianapolis.</i>		<i>Pby of Lake.</i>	
<i>Pby of New Albany.</i>		Indianapolis 3d Union	16 00	Little Elkhart Valparaiso	13 61
Owen's Creek		New Providence	3 00	Tassinong Bethel	
Paoli		Sugar Creek		Rolling Prairie	
Livonia		Bethany	11 00	South Bend	
New Albany		Shiloh	1 50	Sumption's Prairie	
New Philadelphia		Hopewell	15 00	Goshen	
German, Brownstown	2 00	New Prospect and Bogstown	4 00	La Porte 1st	
Jeffersonville		Bloomington		Crown Point	
Corydon		Georgetown		Salem	
Charlestown		Franklin	31 00	Constantine	13 75
Utica		Knightstown	17 15		27 36
Hopewell		Greenfield			
Henryville		Edinburgh			
Orleans		Greenwood			
Mitchell				<i>Pby of Fort Wayne.</i>	
Sharon			98 65	Kendallville	
Ebenezer				Cedar Creek	
Rehoboth		<i>Pby of White Water.</i>		Swan	
Cannelton		Pleasant Grove		Auburn	
Monroe		Rushville		Bear Creek	
New Washington		Mount Carmel		Hopewell	2 00
Jackson co., German	2 00	Liberty		Albion	
	4 00	Connorsville	5 00	Hawpatch	
<i>Pby of Vincennes.</i>		Greensburg		Sparta	
Evansville 1st		Union	5 25	Wabash	10 00
Vincennes	2 00	Sardinia	6 50	Liberty	
Indiana		Cambridge City		Fort Wayne 1st	100 82
Upper Indiana	6 70	Ebenezer		Pleasant Ridge	2 50
Washington	7 00	Brookville		Elhanan	2 00
Petersburg		Richmond		Bluffton	
Princeton		Dunlapville		N. Lancaster	4 00
Mount Vernon	10 00	Sand Creek		Unity	
Union		Ripley		Lagrange	5 25
Bruceville	4 00	Sparta		Fawn River	
Carlisle		Metamora		Columbia City	2 00
Scaffold Prairie		Fairfield		Eel River	2 00
West Salem		Concord		Warsaw	
Rockport			16 75	Piercetown	
Smyrna				Highland	
Hopewell				Decatur	2 00
Claiborne				Flat Rock	
Fairview				Pleasant Hill	
Honey Creek				Roanoke	
Newberry					
Scotland					132 57
Bloomfield					
Sullivan					
Mount Pleasant					
	29 70				
<i>Pby of Madison.</i>					
Madison 1st					
Hanover					
Pleasant Township					
Bethel					
Vernon	7 25				
Lawrenceburg					
Rising Sun					
Graham					
Lexington	5 00				
Jefferson					
Lancaster					
Dupont					
New Frankfort					
Versailles					
Hopewell					
Smyrna					
Donaldson					
	12 25		50 63		22 00

<i>Pby of Muncie.</i>		Dawson	Lexington			
Indianapolis 1st	124 70	Auburn	Mackinaw	7 00		
Prospect	2 31	Williamsville	Ashkum			
Clermont			Gilman			
Muncie			102 00 Onarga			
Winchester			Dwight	2 00		
Tipton	3 00	<i>Pby of Peoria.</i>				
Indianapolis 5th		Mason City	El Paso			
Union	3 00	Brunswick	Secor			
Middletown		Delavan	Harmony			
Hartford	1 00	Mansfield	Sulphur Spring			
Hagerstown	1 09	Brimfield	Cedar Point			
Hopewell		Peoria 1st	Cheney's Grove			
Yorktown		Prospect	Heyworth	8 10		
Newcastle		Havana		59 27		
		Quiver				
	135 10	Lewistown	155 00	<i>Pby of Saline.</i>		
SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.		Henry	17 00 Lawrenceville			
<i>Pby of Kaskaskia.</i>		Limestone	Pisgah			
Trenton	5 00	Elmwood	Hopewell			
Nashville		Peoria 2d	Olney	7 00		
Chester	5 50	Princeville	Richland			
Jordan's Grove		French Grove	Union			
Lively's Prairie		Farmington	Wabash			
Carlyle	7 00	Canton	Friendsville			
Galum		West Jersey	Mount Carmel			
Liberty		Toulon	Carmi	5 00		
Cave Spring		Osceola	Sharon			
Georgetown		Valley	Gayville	4 50		
Pleasant Ridge	6 70	Salem	Equality			
		Washington	Shawneetown	12 50		
		Lincoln	Golconda			
	24 20		Sandoval	3 50		
<i>Pby of Palestine.</i>			Salem			
Grandview		<i>Pby of Hillsboro.</i>				
Oakland	6 00	Greenville	Xenia			
Martinsville		Pocahontas	Kimmunday			
Paris		Elm Point		28 00		
Marshall		Waveland	1 45			
Darwin		Sugar Creek		SYNOD OF CHICAGO.		
York		Litchfield		<i>Pby of Schuyler.</i>		
Charleston	20 05	Ruttan's Prairie		La Prairie	1 00	
Pleasant Prairie		Jerseyville 2d	3 55	Knoxville	1 00	
Neoga		Zion, German		Fountain Green		
Newton		Trenton	13 25	Monmouth	28 00	
Wakefield		Hillsboro'		Carthage	11 30	
Kansas		Butler		Chili		
Arcola		Edwardsville		Wythe		
Hebron		Staunton		Prairie City	2 00	
Palestine		Dry Point		Shiloh		
	26 05	Mason	18 28	Hopewell		
<i>Pby of Sangamon.</i>		German 1st	Ellington	New Maysville		
Springfield 1st	50 00	<i>Pby of Bloomington.</i>			Galesburg	10 00
Springfield 3d	35 00	Atlanta	2 12	North Henderson	7 25	
1st Portuguese church,		Crow Meadow		Edwards		
Springfield		Bloomington		Altona		
2d Portuguese church,		Deer Creek	5 00	John Knox		
Springfield		West Urbana	6 00	Oquawka	4 00	
Jacksonville 2d		Monticello		Warren		
Portuguese ch. Jacksonville		Galloway		Aledo		
Union		Union Grove	6 55	Pope's River		
West Union		Waynesville		Doddsville	3 50	
North Sangamon		Salem		New Providence		
Petersburg	17 00	Clinton		Keithsburg	2 00	
Decatur		Towanda	12 00	Mount Sterling		
Providence		Farm Ridge	5 00	Macomb	11 25	
Centre		Reading		Westminster		
Taylorville 1st		Metamora	2 30	Perry		
Tacusa		Low Point	2 20	Pittsfield		
Pana		Randolph's Grove		Ipava	3 00	
Irish Grove		Wapella	1 00	Vermont	3 50	
				Lenox		

South Henderson	2 13	SYNOD OF WISCONSIN.	<i>Phy of Lake Superior.</i>
Fall Creek	1 68		
Millersburg	7 00	<i>Phy of Dane.</i>	Ontonagon
Camp Creek	10 68		Superior
Huntsville		Oakland and Cambridge	Bayfield 1st
Astoria		Oregon	5 37
Hendersonville		Bellville	5 37
Ellison		Decatur	
Union		Lake View	
		Blue Mounds	
	109 24	Madison	SYNOD OF IOWA.
<i>Phy of Rock River.</i>		Verona	<i>Phy of Cedar.</i>
Pleasant Ridge		Richland City	Solon
Rock Island 1st	3 12	Richland Centre	Cedar Valley and Fair-
Fulton City	2 25	Fancy Creek	view
Rock Run		Rockville & Boice Prairie	Summit
Dixon		Hazel Green & Waukon	Linn Grove and Linden
Camden		Plattville	Toledo and Salem
Lower Rock Island		Highland	Marion
Zion	2 00	Dane	Wolcott and Blue Grass
Morrison		Monroe	Mechanicsville and Lis-
Malden	3 00		bon
Galena. South	32 22		Le Claire and Princeton
Andover			Muscatine
Princeton	7 65	<i>Phy of Milwaukee.</i>	Muscatine, German
Cambridge		Richmond	Vinton and Sand Prairie
Sterling		Waukesha	Herman
Tiskilwa		Janesville	Montezuma and Millers-
Yellow Creek	2 50	Beloit, Westminster	burg
Freeport	3 00	Milwaukee, North	Iowa City
Savanna		Port Washington	Big Grove
Beulah		Grafton	West Irving
Dunleith		Sharon, German	Rock Creek
Middle Creek	4 50	Wheatland, German	Cedar Rapids
Heathland		West Granville, German	Sugar Creek
Galey		Milwaukee, German	Davenport
Albany			Unity
Newton			Red Oak Grove
Bethel			Newton
Phenix			Tipton
Hanover		<i>Phy of Winnebago.</i>	De Witt
Zion's Grove		Winneconna	Hebron
Galena, German		Poinette	
Arlington	2 00	Friendship	Long Grove
Pleasant Valley		Weyawego	7 30
		Oxford	125 20
		Rosedale and Cambria	<i>Phy of Dubuque.</i>
	62 24	Beaver Dam	Dubuque, German
<i>Phy of Chicago.</i>		Burnet and Dodge	Scotch Grove
Victor		Centre	Canton
Aurora 1st		Winnebago Rapids	Frankville
Morris 1st		Depere	Cascade
Serena and Wyoming		Plover and Stevens'	Independence
Chicago, North		Point	Pleasant Grove
Linn and Hebron		Fond du Lac	Bremer Valley
White Rock		Portage	Independence, German
Rockford 1st	36 34	Newport	Waverly
Mendota 1st		Dekora and Caledonia	Mount Vernon
Troy Grove		Horicon	Waukon, German
Earville		New Lisbon	Lycurgus, German
Woodstock 1st			Belleuve
Marengo	2 14		Epworth
Centre			Centralia
Queen Anne		<i>Phy of Chippewa.</i>	Farmer's Creek
Kankakee 1st		Winona Congregational	Prairie
Willow Creek	5 00	Chippewa Falls	Barclay
Lane		Eau Claire	Peosta
Oswego 1st		Winona	Pleasant Point
St. Anne, French		La Crescent	Dyersville, German
Kankakee, French		Hokah	Sherold's Mound
Chicago, South		Houston	Hopkinton
Chicago, West		Galesville	Dubuque 1st
Genoa		St. Charles	Leroy
Belvidere		Freemont	Wilson's Grove
			Clarks-ville
			Pisgah
	43 48		Foreston and Lime
			Springs
			2 24

Mount Hope		<i>Pby of Des Moines.</i>	<i>Pby of Highland.</i>
Farmersburg		Oskaloosa	Highland 5 00
Bethel and Greely Grove		Indianapolis	Westminster and
Maquoketa	1 00	Albia	Leavenworth 6 00
Andrew		Knoxville	Lecompton 1 25
		Corydon	
	80 54	Garden Grove	12 25
<i>Pby of St. Paul.</i>		Des Moines	
St. Paul Central		Chariton	<i>Pby of Platte.</i>
Prescott 1st		White Breast	
St. Peter 1st		Indianola	
Owatonna		Winterset	SYNOD OF MISSOURI.
Dodge City		Columbia	<i>Pby of Missouri.</i>
Vermillion	1 30	Osceola	Glasgow 6 00
Wheatland		Lagrange	
Forest	50		6 00
Westminster	5 50	<i>Pby of Council Bluffs.</i>	<i>Pby of St. Louis.</i>
St. Anthony	10 50	Glenwood	Carondelet
Hudson 1st	4 25	Clarinda and 102	Central
Glasgow		Sydney	Des Peres
Lake City		Council Bluffs	Washington
Stillwater 2d	5 21	Twelve Mile	Eagle Fork
		Pleasant Valley	Dardenne
	27 26	Alton and others	Pine Street
<i>Pby of Owatonna.</i>			Providence
Owatonna	3 02	<i>Pby of Omaha.</i>	Creve Coeur
		Belleve	Fee-fee
	3 02	Blackbird Hills	Bonhomme
<i>Pby of Sioux City.</i>		Brownville	St. Charles
Sioux City		Birmingham	Second St. Louis 77 75
Dacotah		Omaha City	Bethel, German 5 00
Algona		Nebraska City	Zion
Fort Dodge		Plattsmouth	Zoar 3 00
Linn Grove	3 15	Mission ch	Nazareth 8 00
Berlin			Park Avenue
Mount Vernon	2 35		Bethlehem 2 50
Springfield	50	<i>Pby of Fairfield.</i>	Union
		Sigourney	Emanuel 2 00
	6 00	Birmingham	Kirkwood
SYNOD OF SOUTH'N IOWA.		Eddyville	Beuff Creek
<i>Pby of Iowa.</i>		Fairfield	Newport
Ononwa	1 00	Ottumwa	Union
Round Prairie	10 00	Spring Creek	Maline Creek
Mount Pleasant	7 60	Libertyville	Meredit 6 00
Middletown	3 36	Locust Grove	104 25
Union	8 60	Crawfordsville	<i>Pby of Palmyra.</i>
New London	2 00	Shiloh	Big Creek
Burlington	1 50	Kirkville	Warren
West Point	3 00	Brighton	St. Francisville
Unity		Bentonsport	Athens
Round Grove		Martinsburg	Kirksville
Trenton		Rich Woods	Palmyra
Lowell		Dutch Creek	Auburu
Westminster Keokuk	23 00	Keosauqua	Hannibal 1st
Wapello		Lafayette	Ashley
Oakland		Washington	Lick Creek
Sharon	4 00	Troy	Mount Prairie
Pilot Grove		Sigourney	Mount Horeb
Spring Creek		Liberty	Paris
Evangelical St. Peter's	6 50		Pleasant Hill
		SYNOD UPPER MISSOURI.	Memphis
	70 56	<i>Pby of Upper Missouri.</i>	Etna
<i>Pby of Missouri River.</i>			Louisiana
Brownsville ch	5 00	<i>Pby of Lafayette.</i>	Macon City
			Callio
	5 00		Clarence
			Hannibal 2d 6 00
			Monticello
			Canton
			South Fork
			New Hope
			Mount Zion

Ebeuezer		<i>Pby of Transylvania.</i>	Richwood	
Frankford		Lebanon 1st	New Hope	
Des Moines		Paint Lick	Murpneysville	
Philadelphia		Richmond	Gilead	
Waterloo		Stanford	Stonemouth	
Lancaster		Greensburg		
Shelbyville		Hustonville		20 40
	6 00	Lancaster		9 50
<i>Pby of Potosi.</i>		Columbia		10 00
Brazeau		Edmunton	<i>Pby of Paducah.</i>	
Apple Creek 1st	2 50	Perryville		
Pleasant Hill		Harrodsburg		
Farmington		Silver Creek		
Bellevue		Laurel	SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.	
White Water		Springfield	<i>Pby of Greenbrier.</i>	
Arcadia		Pleasant Grove		
Clark's Creek		Lebanon 2d	<i>Pby of Lexington.</i>	
Cape Girardeau		Munfordsville		
Potosi		Hanging Fork		
Steeleville		Bethel Union	<i>Pby of West Hanover.</i>	
Benton		Salvisa		
Bloomfield		Danville 1st		
New Madrid		Danville 2d	<i>Pby of East Hanover.</i>	
Hopewell		Pisgah		
	2 50	Harmony		
<i>Pby of Wyaconda.</i>		Bethel	<i>Pby of Montgomery.</i>	
Keokuk	4 00	Ebenezer		
Athens	50	Glasgow	<i>Pby of Roanoke.</i>	
	4 50	New Providence		
SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.		Mount Pleasant		
<i>Pby of Louisville.</i>		Hart		
Lawrenceburg		Maxville		
Owensboro'	69 13	Mizpeh		
Louisville, Chestnut St	80 00	Estill		
Taylorsville		Reformed, New Hope		
Middletown	24 15			71 25
Plum Creek & Cane Run	5 50	<i>Pby of West Lexington.</i>		
Elizabethtown		Bethel		23 25
Shelbyville		Woodford	SYNOD OF N. CAROLINA.	
Big Spring		Versailles	<i>Pby of Orange.</i>	
Bardstown	3 00	Lexington 2d ch		
New Castle		Frankfort		
Pleasureville		Georgetown		10 00
Goshen	10 00		<i>Pby of Fayetteville.</i>	
Walnut Street	6 25	<i>Pby of Ebenezer.</i>		
Hawesville		Washington		
Franklin		Mayslick	<i>Pby of Concord.</i>	
Mulberry		Sharpsburgh		
Louisville 4th		Springfield		
Pennsylvania Run		Lebanon		
Hebron		Ashland		13 40
Louisville 2d		Greenup Union	SYNOD OF NASHVILLE.	
Pisgah	5 00	Catlettsburgh	<i>Pby of Holston.</i>	
Cloverport	12 50	Greenupsburgh		
Louisville 1st	35 15	Covington 1st		
Shiloh and Olivet		Flemingsburgh	<i>Pby of Maury.</i>	
Portland Avenue		New Port		
Red Mills		Ebenezer		
Hodgensville		Falmouth		
Westport		Covington 2d	<i>Pby of Nashville.</i>	
	250 68	Elizaville		
<i>Pby of Muhlenburg.</i>		Paris		
Henderson	46 00	Maysville 1st		
Mount Zion	4 00	Carlisle		
Concord	2 00	Moorefield	<i>Pby of Knoxville.</i>	
	52 00	Millersburg		
		Concord		
		Crittenden		
		Hinkston	<i>Pby of Tusculumbia.</i>	
		Augusta		
		Sharon		7 00
		Burlington		

SYNOD SOUTH CAROLINA.	SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.	SYNOD OF TEXAS.
<i>Pby of South Carolina.</i>	<i>Pby of Mississippi.</i>	<i>Pby of Brazos.</i>
		Houston
<i>Pby of Bethel.</i>	<i>Pby of Louisiana.</i>	<i>Pby of Eastern Texas.</i>
<i>Pby of Harmony.</i>	<i>Pby of Tombecbee.</i>	<i>Pby of Western Texas.</i>
<i>Pby of Charleston.</i>	<i>Pby of Red River.</i>	<i>Pby of Central Texas.</i>
	<i>Pby of E. Mississippi.</i>	
		SYNOD OF PACIFIC.
SYNOD OF GEORGIA.	<i>Pby Central Mississippi.</i>	<i>Pby of California.</i>
<i>Pby of Georgia.</i>	<i>Pby of New Orleans.</i>	First Calvary St. Paul's, Welsh
<i>Pby of Hopewell.</i>	SYNOD OF MEMPHIS.	<i>Pby of Oregon.</i>
<i>Pby of Flint River.</i>	<i>Pby of Western District.</i>	Clatsop Brownsville Calapooia Eugene City Diamond Hills Corvallis Pleasant Grove Portland Lafayette Astoria
<i>Pby of Florida.</i>	<i>Pby of Chickasaw.</i>	2 09 71 50
<i>Pby of Cherokee.</i>	<i>Pby of Memphis.</i>	
	<i>Pby of N. Mississippi.</i>	73 50
		<i>Pby of Stockton.</i>
SYNOD OF ALABAMA.	SYNOD OF ARKANSAS.	First Sacramento Chinese Camp
<i>Pby of South Alabama.</i>	<i>Pby of Arkansas.</i>	
<i>Pby of Tuscaloosa.</i>	<i>Pby of Ouachita.</i>	<i>Pby of Benicia.</i>
<i>Pby of East Alabama.</i>	<i>Pby of Indian.</i>	Benicia Healdsburg Suisun Napa Santa Rosa
	<i>Pby of Creek Nation.</i>	

Receipts from churches as above, ...	\$17,473 03
Miscellaneous contributions, legacies, and a few churches whose names are not given, ...	7,605 22
	<u>\$25,078 25</u>

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

APPOINTED TO INVESTIGATE THE AFFAIRS OF THE BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

MAY, 1863.

THE Committee appointed by the last General Assembly "to make a thorough examination of the affairs of the Board of Publication," respectfully present the following Report.

The call of the Chairman was made for the meeting of the Committee, in the city of Philadelphia, on Tuesday, the 16th day of September, A. D. 1862, at 10 o'clock, A. M. At that time three members of the Committee met; several other members, unable then to be present, were known to be detained for a few days; and it was judged best to adjourn until Friday, the 19th day of September, at 11 o'clock, A. M. Even then, three of the Committee were still absent, viz., the Rev. Dr. S. B. McPheeters, of the Synod of Missouri, James Donaldson, Esq., of the Synod of New York, and B. Whitely, Esq., of the Synod of Baltimore. The absence of these brethren was not so anticipated as to give the Chairman the opportunity of inviting others to take their places, as authorized by the Assembly, until the Committee had actually convened; and the efforts then made to supply the vacancies proving ineffectual, the six members present proceeded with the business intrusted to them.

The Committee was in session for six succeeding days, spending seven hours of each day, except the last, in careful united consultations and investigations; they used, also, various means of securing information outside of the Committee-room; and they endeavoured to obtain a full understanding of the matters assigned by the General Assembly for their investigation.

Our desire now is, to give the Assembly and the Church a succinct account of the things brought before us, and to state the results of our deliberations.

At the outset, your Committee met with various complaints, alleging the inefficient working of the Board of Publication, such as have been published in different newspapers of our Church, and recounted in the Assembly for several years past. To hear these, and to investigate their truthfulness, was a chief duty assigned to the Committee; the Assembly directed us to hear such allegations from whatever quarter; and the call of our Chairman, published in all our periodicals, invited them before us. Of the judicatories of the Church, no action was formally presented to us, except a series of resolutions passed by the

Presbytery of Dane, and transmitted to us, by order of the Presbytery, through their Stated Clerk. But letters and documents from various members of the Church, both ministers and elders, were put into our hands; and three ministers of high standing and ability came personally before us, and made statements as fully as they desired: to all which the Committee gave careful and interested attention.

On the other hand, we received a series of resolutions passed by the Board of Publication, giving us a cordial welcome in our work, and offering us every facility for the prosecution of our inquiries. And it is but due for us to say, touching all persons concerned, that every individual who appeared before us at our request, both of salaried officers, and of members of the Executive Committee, carried fully out the spirit of these resolutions. To which may here be added, that inquiries, by the members of the Committee, in Philadelphia and elsewhere, made of many persons, and upon all questions pertaining to our business, were always met in a spirit of candour and kindness, which should receive this brief acknowledgment. To all matters brought to our notice, or sought out by our own independent investigation, we endeavoured to give a full and impartial consideration. We had this advantage, that those who have complained of the Board, and those who have approved of all its operations, were united in desiring our investigations; and we were conscious that our only aim was, by reaching the truth, to promote the usefulness of this important agency of the Church.

I. The first thing that engaged the attention of your Committee was THE CHARACTER OF THE PUBLICATIONS PUT FORTH BY THE BOARD.

Except in the resolutions of the Presbytery of Dane, which complain that the efficiency of the Board is impaired by a "large accumulation of books of a very ordinary and common-place character," and which request the Board "to give us the cream, and only the cream of theological and religious literature;" and except complaints against our periodicals, to be hereafter noticed, it is remarkable that no charges have been made before the Committee, against the character of the Board's publications. Yet the matter engaged our attention, because a Presbytery gravely makes the charges, and because murmurings in the same direction have frequently met us, though less formally made.

When the Board of Publication assumed its present form and name, its design, as expressed in its constitution, then amended by the General Assembly, was "to publish not only tracts and Sabbath-school books, but also approved works in support of the great principles of the Reformation, as exhibited in the doctrines and order of the Presbyterian Church, and whatever else the Assembly may direct." We now inquire, Has the Board faithfully done the work which the Church should expect of such an agency? We would set aside unreasonable complaints, by whatever motives prompted; we would approve where approbation is deserved; we would favour every practicable advance.

What are the *criteria* by which to judge of the publications which such a Board should furnish to a Church and a land like ours? We

mention a few of the more important of these, in comparison with what the Institution has really accomplished.

The first criterion by which to judge of a religious literature, to wit, *soundness of doctrine*, belongs to the publications of the Board. This will be universally conceded by those who are competent to give an intelligent judgment upon them.

A second criterion respects *the adaptation of the publications to the wants of the Presbyterian Church, and to the work she should accomplish in the world around.*

A denominational literature, such a Board as this must furnish. The founders of the Institution unquestionably designed this; the necessities of the Church, so long agitated by the doctrinal discussions of that period of our history, imperatively demanded that our particular doctrines and order should be boldly vindicated; and it is right in itself, and especially characteristic of Presbyterians, to make an open and manly advocacy of the distinguishing principles we draw from the sacred Scriptures. Yet we would not stop here. The sentiment of the Presbyterian Church would not sustain the Board in any narrow or exclusive policy. Firmly attached to our own standards, and zealous for our views, no people in the land are less sectarian than Presbyterians; none take larger views of the entire field of Christian effort; and none are more ready to coöperate in the diffusion of catholic, evangelical truth. The catalogue of the Presbyterian Board of Publication, must, therefore, embrace a wide variety. So a wise judgment of the Board's success in meeting the just demands upon it, must recognise the occasional demands of particular times, and the permanent demands of all times; must think leniently of occasional errors; and must acknowledge that no publishing house can expect equal success in each publication, or can always correctly anticipate the taste of the reading public.

Against no publications of the Board have more frequent objections been made, than against the volumes of the older divines, whose style, especially, seems less adapted to the tastes of our age. There are, however, many good reasons for the publication of such books by our Church. Other publishers and other societies, whose excellent judgment no one calls in question, have issued many of the same works; indeed, but lately, public and private enterprise have multiplied the republications of these older books. They contain the very teachings demanded in the times when this Board was instituted; there is a special propriety in the issue, by the Presbyterian Church, of works whose doctrinal teachings so accord with our views; their reputation makes them desirable, at least for the libraries of ministers; and to prepare books suitable for an important class of readers, need not hinder the supply of other books which a different class of readers may prefer. When we add, that many of our most thoughtful and serious people would justly complain if they could not find these favourite and instructive authors among the books which an agency of the Church selects; that some of these volumes have been issued by

the aid of funds furnished for this very end; that the sales secured have been usually large enough to justify at least one edition of each volume published; and that the Board is ever desirous of improving through the lessons of experience, we have said perhaps all that is necessary upon this point.

A third criterion by which to judge of the Board's issues may be found in the *actual sales secured*. The circulation of various volumes in the catalogue is far beyond the anticipations any of the committee had formed. Making all due allowance for the special advantages such an institution may possess for giving circulation to its issues, we judge that the sale of a book in an intelligent community is some test of its value. We examined carefully the Board's register of its entire issues: we learned that a large circulation had been secured for books distinctively Calvinistic, and that the issues of the older theology compare well with the more attractive books of a later date; but we do not think it necessary to give, in this Report, the detailed statistics which have satisfied us, better than ever before, of the large circulation of the Board's doctrinal issues.

Attractiveness may be esteemed another criterion of excellence. The books should contain only scriptural truth; should be adapted to the wants of the church; should have an interest for those accustomed to buy books; but we wish also books that will attract the heedless—books that will be read. The Board has certainly made great improvements from its earlier issues, in the exterior style and finish of its publications. Here, of course, we desire every further improvement possible. But a most perplexing and difficult question ever seeks solution in the deliberations of this Board: "How are the thousands of readers in our land, especially the youthful readers, to be won to the perusal of evangelical reading?" We all mourn that so much of the reading matter issued from the press everywhere, in books, pamphlets, and periodicals, is pernicious in its character; that evil sentiments and injurious forms of communicating even truth, pervert the tastes of the people, so that religious teachings in any fitting dress are little relished; and that, after all our care, the scriptural soundness we must maintain in the issues of this Board is a chief cause of popular aversion. While we should maintain that it is a high and difficult duty in a great public institution like this, to form the public taste, and to correct it where vicious, and not servilely to obey it, we should also recognise the difficulty of deciding how far the church should yield, or must yield, to the appetite that craves a species of light literature for the reading of our households. When even wise and good men have erred here, we have need of special carefulness. We believe that, taking the whole catalogue together, the issues of this Board will compare favourably with those of any other publishing house or society; that, in proportion to its numbers, the Sabbath-school catalogue will furnish as many attractive books as any ever sent forth; and that the Board is improving, as it gathers experience, in the value and attractiveness of its volumes.

Those who have felt dissatisfied with the workings of the Board hitherto, have apparently but little considered several thoughts we may here suggest:

1st. This institution should publish important works in the interest of the Presbyterian Church, that are not remunerative in their sale, or are even quite unprofitable, pecuniarily.

2d. Without an entire change of the plans thus far pursued, the Board cannot supply all the intelligent reading of the Presbyterian Church. Many valuable volumes cannot receive the approval of the Publishing Committee, and indeed no possible arrangements could induce our people to confine their purchases to any single publishing establishment. The Board must ever be content to share with other agencies the full supply of the wants of such a church.

3d. For various reasons, we need not specify, many writers in our own Church publish their works under other auspices; and indeed no changes in the officers, or policy, or conduct of the Board, can control the entire freedom of authors, publishers and purchasers of books, or obviate the difficulties with which every such institution must contend.

While your Committee would appreciate these difficulties, they do not affirm that the publications of the Board are above criticism. Yet the cause of religion has nothing to gain from unreasonable censures, and due credit should be given for the well-meant efforts, on the whole successful, that have sought the good of the Church for a quarter of a century. We are the less disposed to minute criticism of the past, because we have evidence that careful efforts are made to improve as experience directs. More than forty volumes have been dropped from the catalogue; the later issues indicate the Board's desire to secure more attractive volumes, and perhaps because we have already enough of the older writers, great changes have been made to adapt the publications to a more modern taste. All errors against the true policy of the Board must reveal themselves: the penalty of issuing unsuitable books, is to find them unsaleable; and if in other respects the Board is wisely managed, the natural tendency will be to avoid all errors in this direction.

II. The second important topic that engaged the attention of the Committee, was the consideration of THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE BOARD.

Charges were preferred against the Board in regard to various matters, which we arranged under these several heads:

1st. *The capital and its increase.*

2d. *The salaries of the officers and the working expenses of the Board.*

3d. *The cost of production, and the prices and agencies of the Board,*
and

4th. *The general efficiency of its management.*

1st. Our first object was to ascertain *what was really the capital of the Board, and what amount of this was available for business purposes?* For some reasons it is doubtless judicious that no public exhibit should be made of many matters of this kind; yet as the Church at large has

an interest in an institution like this, the demand for a frank and full exposition of its financial affairs may be thought not unreasonable.

The balance sheet made out on the 1st of March, 1862, presents us with the following items, which make up the entire capital of the Board.

Books—In store, ...	\$85,755 65	
In hands of colporteurs, ...	37,651 57	
		\$123,407 22
James Dunlap, Treasurer, ...		6,086 36
Bills Receivable, ...		2,439 79
Real Estate, ...		38,065 74
Widows' Fund, ...		737 60
Engravings, ...		11,958 06
Steel Plates, ...		32 68
Stereotype Plates, ...		26,775 55
Library, ...		1,943 75
Sabbath-school Visitor, ...		4,860 45
Colportage, ...		8,499 66
Personal Debts, ...	13,187 51	
do. Credits, ...	606 85	
		12,580 66
Total present reported capital, ...		\$237,387 52

Whether this capital has increased as rapidly as the Church should reasonably expect, or is employed with satisfactory efficiency, will engage our attention again. We make a few remarks now upon the various items named.

The Real Estate of the Board is set down at its actual cost. This entire sum was given to the Board for the express purposes: first, of buying the house and lot formerly occupied, and then of erecting the present buildings upon the same site. When the buildings first purchased were destroyed by fire, they were not fully paid for; but the insurance previously effected, gave the ground into the hands of the Board free of incumbrance. Special contributions afforded the ability to build the house now occupied: the donors were consulted as to the plan, size, and style of the whole; and your Committee have ascertained, by special inquiry, that no conditions were imposed respecting the free occupancy of the premises in part by any of the other Boards of the Church. This property, in prosperous times, could have been sold at a large advance upon its cost; yet, all things considered, and especially in the present financial condition of the country, it is set down in the schedule at the cost value. It accommodates the Board for its entire business, furnishes convenient rooms for the Board of Education, and allows the spacious buildings in the rear to be rented for binderies, where a large portion of the book-binding of the Board is conveniently done.

The item, "Widows' Fund," is the amount of a deposit, made some

years ago, and before the election of the present Corresponding Secretary, with the institution now known as the Presbyterian Annuity Company. The design of this was to secure to the family of the Secretary of the Board for the time being an annuity, in case of his death, according to the terms usually offered by that society to congregations for their pastors, or to ministers for themselves, upon the payment of an annual sum, or upon a certain deposit made with the company. However well intended was the liberality of the Board towards its chief executive officer, in making this arrangement, it seems liable to objection, or at least to misconception, far beyond its value to him; and in a subsequent part of this report, your Committee recommend the withdrawal of this deposit.

Engravings in wood, steel plates, and stereotype plates to the amount of nearly \$40,000, are next mentioned. We could not easily decide the relation borne by these items to the available capital of the Board. The figures express neither the cost, nor the present value, especially of the stereotype plates. Following the usual custom of business houses, the Board has charged the cost of stereotyping to the various editions of the books stereotyped, so that the plates of the most available books soon make no appearance in the account of stock; and yet most of these can still be used, perhaps for years to come. Thus the Board actually possesses more property than the balance sheet calls for; but as each set of plates can be used only for a single book, the amount thus expressed is not active capital. Worth, in some cases, more than their estimated value; worth, in other cases, little but the bare value of the metal, except to such a publishing institution, these costly plates, together with the real estate, constitute a capital *in trust* for the exact place they hold; they cannot be turned as rapidly in business operations as a like amount of active capital; yet to possess these should decrease the expenses, and swell the profits of the institution.

The Library of the Board has cost \$2,800 since 1845; it was nearly destroyed by fire in 1849, and is here set down at less than \$2,000. How many of these volumes were needful for the wise discharge of editorial duties; how many are books upon important matters of Presbyterian history, polity, and doctrine, not easily procured, yet highly appropriate for this place; how many have been secured by gift or exchange, in addition to the expenditure of \$1,700 since the fire, we are not able to say. But upon examining the annual reports, the Committee thought that more was sometimes appropriated to the purchase of books than was necessary for the purposes of the institution; and we think, especially in view of the large library already accumulated, that the Board should in future diminish these expenditures.

Taking the debts now due to the Board, including sums owing by the Sabbath-school Visitor and the Colportage Fund, amounting in all to \$26,000; the stock on hand and in the hands of colporteurs, \$123,400; the cash in the Treasury, \$6,086; bills receivable, \$2,440; omitting abatements for bad debts and for Southern accounts, which cannot now

be properly estimated, the entire capital of the institution, which on the schedule is \$237,000, can be directly used in its business only for about \$160,000.

In 1842 the General Assembly directed the Board to manage its funds "upon the principle of yielding a net yearly revenue of about six per cent. per annum upon the actual amount of its whole capital." Objection was made before the Committee that this six per cent. must not be "compounded," but we are clearly of the opinion that the advance of six per cent. in each year should be, according to the Assembly's apparent meaning, upon the capital of that year, and not merely upon the original investment. Though the balance sheet of each year was placed in our hands during the sessions of the Committee in Philadelphia, yet in preparing this report we use data reaching only as far back as 1849.

The entire capital in 1849 was \$84,054.30. This was increased \$22,656.45 in that year, and \$6000 more in 1851, for building purposes. The total profits in thirteen years amount to \$153,333.22. The items explaining this in full, will be given in a subsequent table. The average capital for these thirteen years is nearly \$172,000; the average annual profits, \$11,975. As this is 6 4-5 per cent., the Board has fully obeyed the injunction of the Assembly.

2. The *Salaries of the Officers, and the working expenses of the Board*, next engaged the attention of the Committee.

Before mentioning the objections made in regard to these things, your Committee deem it due to a just understanding of the whole case, to express our high esteem of those officers of the Board with whom these investigations have brought us in contact. We need say little respecting the venerable Editor of the Board; the earlier part of this Report has special reference to his labours; and he has spread the evidence before the world for more than twenty years, of an able and judicious discharge of his important duties. But we were strongly impressed with the ability of every officer for his particular place; each seemed specially intelligent touching his own duties; an excellent system appeared to belong to each department; and we are wholly indisposed to suggest any changes founded upon the unfitness of any officer for the place he holds.

And it should not be easily forgotten by the Church, that this Institution shares—a common feature of all our Boards—in the unrewarded labours of many gentlemen of high standing and eminent business capacity. The thanks of the Church are especially due to those, who, for so many years, have given their valuable time to the toils of the Publishing and Executive Committees of this Board; and that no serious embarrassments have ever affected it; that errors, which have elsewhere proved disastrous, have been avoided; and that the Board now possesses so good prospects for future usefulness, may be justly ascribed, in large measure, to their prudence and care. Your Committee would only add here their deliberate judgment, that it is poor economy to give employment to inferior officers, in a great public

institution like this. Business that must be transacted, like that of this Board, with the eyes of the whole Church upon it, should be well done; persons fully competent should fill every position; and the compensation should rather border upon the liberal than tend toward the mean.

Yet we should favour no extravagance, nor leave the impression that the agents of the Church are not to be held to a strict accountability. Various complaints have appeared in our public papers, and have been fully laid before us, that too many officers were employed by the Board; and that their salaries are larger than should be paid for such services. Your Committee prefer to bring these matters directly before the Assembly in statistical tables, presenting the whole case. Just here we may simply say, that similar difficulties have attended the operations of all other like institutions with which we have had any acquaintance. Perhaps it may be found impossible to reduce the expenditures so as to give satisfaction, since the demands of the business can be fully understood only by those engaged in its management. Yet men accustomed to commercial affairs will think it strange to see that the amounts paid for salaries have increased so rapidly beyond the growth of the business itself. It is easy to advance in such matters; it is difficult to recede. Yet the Committee think that the present is a good time to suggest changes in the way of retrenchment. We know that in such an institution a full corps of officers should be retained, even when business is dull; that persons already engaged, will not lightly be thrown out of business by an honourable employer; and that it is undesirable to need to train new officers, should business revive and expand. But the Board has already set the example of dispensing with one office, giving the duties of Publishing Agent into the hands of others already in their employment, after the lamented decease of Mr. Joseph P. Engles. Other similar changes can be made now; and perhaps be made permanent with even a growing business.

The Committee propose the following recommendations to the consideration of the General Assembly:

1st. That the salary of the Corresponding Secretary of the Board should remain unchanged, in view of the cost of living in the city of Philadelphia; but that the amount deposited with the Presbyterian Annuity Company be withdrawn, and the Board be directed to withdraw it accordingly. The Committee further express their judgment, that this officer should discharge the duties of Editor; yet considering the long and faithful services of the present Editor, they respectfully leave it to the General Assembly to decide whether this change should take place at the present time.

2d. That the duties of the Treasurer should be added to the duties of the Superintendent of Colportage, without any increase in his present salary; that the office of Treasurer, as distinct, be dispensed with, and that adequate security be still required for the proper fulfilment of his trust.

3d. That the duties of Publishing Agent be assigned to the Superintendent of Depository, without any increase of his present salary.

4th. That the office and salary of Solicitor be discontinued.

5th. That the Book-keeper be continued, as at present, with the same salary.

6th. That one individual should have charge of the Periodical Department, should be responsible for its conduct, and should be expected to furnish his own clerks and assistants at his own expense; and to this end, should be allowed a salary not exceeding thirteen hundred dollars (\$1300) per annum.

Should all these recommendations be adopted by the Assembly, the expenses saved in salaries, per annum, would be \$3600; if the Editorship be given to the Secretary, it would be \$4800.* If the business should increase, there may be need for subordinate assistance. This may make the actual expenses of salaries somewhat larger. But in our judgment there should be no increase of principal officers, and the per centage of expenses should always fall, rather than rise, with the increase of business.

The Committee further recommend,

7th. That the accounts be so kept as to express clearly in the Annual Report the various items of expense, and that the Executive Committee be directed to send their Records, annually, to the General Assembly for examination.

3. The Committee next passed to consider *the cost of production, and the prices and agencies of the Board.*

It is a grave question whether the Board should not do all its own work, so far as pertains to the production of books. Should it not for this purpose buy types, presses, and all the necessary furniture for printing and binding books; following in this matter the example of other large publishing institutions, the American Bible Society, the American Tract Society, and the Methodist Book Concern? Your Committee felt that this matter demanded their most careful inquiry and consideration, as one of great importance. They accordingly took special pains to secure all accessible information, and so far as we are

* The amount differs as we examine the reports of different years. In the report of 1860, the *Home and Foreign Record* cost, in salaries, \$850; the *Visitor* \$1149.96. Total of the salaries affected in the Committee's regulations, \$6400. In 1861 the Solicitor's salary is omitted; *Home and Foreign Record*, \$850; *Visitor*, \$985.56; total, &c., \$6035.52. The Committee allow but \$1300 to the periodicals. This, as compared with 1860, saves \$5100; and with 1861, \$4735; including the Solicitor, over \$4800. But some other salaries have been advanced since 1860, with which we have not interfered.

We reckon Publishing Agent, . . .	\$2000
On Periodicals, including Editor of <i>Visitor</i> , . . .	500
Treasurer, Solicitor, and Editor, . . .	2300
	4800

But the offices of Publishing Agent and Editor of the *Sabbath-school Visitor* had already been suspended, if not abolished, by the Board. The 7th recommendation above had been already enjoined by the General Assembly, and complied with by the Board.

competent to judge in the case, we are fully of the opinion that such an establishment is undesirable, especially in the present times. The business of the Board is simpler and more easily managed under existing arrangements; and with engagements so large and payments so prompt, the officers can purchase paper and secure their printing and book-binding in open market with sufficient economy. Touching this part of the Board's operations, the chief complaints laid before us have reference to the prices paid for printing. Forty cents a token is usually paid by the Board for work done upon its books; thirty-five for its periodicals. It is thought by some that these prices are too high. Your Committee came to a different conclusion; and affirm that, in our judgment, the practice of the Board is worthy of approval.

The whole matter of prices in a city like Philadelphia, where many responsible and honourable parties are engaged in the different branches of production, is so reduced to system, that quite as much is lost as gained by attempts to secure a cheaper style of work. First class stereotypers have their fixed terms; first class printers, who alone should be intrusted with the handling of stereotype plates, have also their regular prices; lower rates imply a corresponding deterioration of the work done, and subject valuable property to the danger of injury by careless hands. The Board makes no contracts pledging the continuance of work, but is always at liberty to change its entire business, or any such part as may be for its advantage. The terms upon which the work is to be done are always understood; these terms, so far as our inquiries extended, especially in the printing, of which alone complaint has been made, are not higher than those paid by other institutions and establishments in the same city, and considering the demand in our Church for the best style of work, with which the Board has wisely complied, we make no censure upon this part of its business.

Your Committee would make here no particular suggestions respecting the prices of the books of the Board. Just now the cost of materials and production has so advanced, that this is an unsettled subject. Indeed, as we shall notice hereafter, the circulation of books depends less upon the retail prices, so long as these are fair, than upon the inducements held out to the dealers, who may aid in their distribution. Yet, whatever changes are desirable in regard to the retail prices of the Board's publications, can easily take place, if the further suggestions of the report upon the general management of the Board should be satisfactory to the General Assembly.

4. Our further views upon the agencies of the Board, except Colportage, to be spoken of afterwards, we connect with our remarks upon *the general efficiency of its management*.

Many complaints have been made to the Committee directly and elsewhere, in regard to the management of the Board, both as to economy and efficiency. We prefer to furnish statistics, which will exhibit this whole matter to the Church at large. We have therefore prepared a table, which brings before the eye at a glance, the resources, operations, cost, and profits of the past thirteen years. We have endeavoured

to make this as accurate as the printed reports of the Board will allow, the capital and profits being taken from official statements. The item *freight* does not include the cost of sending books to colporteurs, nor do we reckon the postage stamps used in mailing the Sabbath-school Visitor,* these the subscribers repay. We exclude the real estate, plates, &c., from the second column of capital, that the business done may be more easily contrasted with the active capital at the Board's command. As each report exhibits the business of the preceding year, the table is so arranged. So, for example, the statistics for 1852 correspond with the report of 1853:

Years.	Total Capital.	Estimated Capital exclusive of Real Estate, Photos, &c.	Sales.	Salaries.	Expenses.	Profits.	Profits Per Cent.			Per cent. expenses on sales.
							On entire capital.	On actual capital.	On sales.	
1849	\$84,054	\$60,000	\$39,454	\$6,229	\$2,950	\$2,999 †22,656	3.5	5.	7.6	23.2
1850	109,689	63,000	58,644	6,595	2,515	9,314	8.5	14.8	15.9	15.5
1851	119,003	69,000	59,457	7,999	2,570	12,086 †6,000	10.1	17.5	20.3	17.8
1852	137,084	76,000	70,968	7,350	2,214	14,132	10.3	18.6	20.	13.4
1853	151,221	86,000	77,648	10,193	2,889	17,980	11.9	21.	23.1	17.
1854	169,202	100,000	65,793	11,188	3,254	7,253	4.2	7.25	11.	21.8
1855	176,155	103,000	65,341	11,342	2,949	11,186	6.3	10.8	17.1	21.8
1856	187,641	108,000	81,055	12,723	3,706	11,937	6.3	11.	14.7	20.26
1857	199,578	112,000	73,811	13,071	3,937	12,231	6.1	10.9	16.5	23.
1858	211,809	118,000	69,087	14,076	3,706	5,463	2.6	4.6	7.9	25.7
1859	217,272	120,000	80,933	14,180	3,539	12,161	5.5	10.	15.	21.8
1860	229,453	130,000	81,849	15,397	4,762	13,154	5.7	10.	16.	24.6
1861	242,587	140,000	31,031	13,660	3,036	-5,200	-2.			54.6
1862	237,387	135,000								

Having before said that the average of profits on the entire capital was 6.8 per cent., we now add that the average per cent. of profits on the active capital as estimated is 11.9: the average per cent. cost of salaries on average sales is 16.4: the average per cent. of total expenses on average sales is 21.3: and the average per cent. of profits above expenses on average sales is 17.5.

These statistics show *that* the Board has never turned over its capital once in any year; *that* the sales have always been considerably less than the active capital; *that* the disproportion between the capital and the sales is growing; and *that* the expenses bear a large and increasing ratio to the sales and profits. It seems important to inquire, *whether*

* These cannot always be distinguished. For example, in the Report of 1861:

Home and Foreign Record—Postage, freight, and stationery,	\$560 00
Sabbath-school Visitor—Postage, freight, and twine, ...	1,318 21
Board of Publication—Postage stamps, ...	619 45

\$2,507 66

Our table is usually rather under than over the just amounts.

† Donated for building purposes.

in the nature of the Board's operations, there are satisfactory reasons for these things; *whether* results have been secured, of which the Balance Sheet makes no mention, that can justly be thought compensatory for the lack of larger pecuniary profits; and *whether* any means can be suggested, of a practicable character, for the greater efficiency of the institution in the future.

As to the nature of the Board's operations, they have benevolent aspects, united with business engagements; but we are unable to see that the efficiency of its management should in any wise be hindered by its twofold purpose. We can neither agree with the brethren who have urged us to consider the Board as a mere business agency, to be conducted and estimated simply upon business principles, nor with those who find reasons for a less successful prosecution of its business, because it must not lose sight of other aims. On the one hand, the Board is an establishment doing an important business; business habits, skill, and tact are required in its management; and we cannot judge wisely of its efficient management, unless we understand the principles upon which men conduct commercial enterprises. But, on the other hand, the projectors of the institution, the contributors to its funds, and the General Assembly that established the Board, would have taken no such steps in order to gain the mere business results of a book publishing house. The Board was established to promote the interests of truth, and the making of money by its business, entered into the plan only as a means which gave larger ability to secure this main object. If therefore the institution sometimes publishes books that are demanded by the interests of religion, or of our particular denomination, even knowing that the sales will not prove remunerative; if important publications are prepared and circulated at, or below, the cost of production; if grants of books are made beyond the funds for colportage, specially received from the churches; or if, after the prosperity of the Board has accumulated sufficient capital, its entire energy should be spent in the best methods of spreading the truth abroad, without seeking further accumulations; all these things would be legitimate workings of the Presbyterian Board of Publication. Yet these things—which all confess—should not complicate our inquiry into the Board's efficiency. For, as the books that are not remunerative are few in number; as still fewer are put below their actual cost, and as grants of books have hitherto been chiefly provided for by the collections made in the churches, the benevolent aspects of the institution have certainly been no hinderance to its business operations. But the Board having the free use of so much property in buildings, stereotype plates, &c., should be able to prepare books at as low a cost as any publishing house in the land; while, enjoying the favour of the Presbyterian Church, having the aid of so many colporteurs, whose support, though in the Board's service, is no tax upon its business resources, but is secured by the benevolent contributions of the churches, and having the same access to the channels of trade with other producers, this institution ought to acquire a business beyond

the reach of the most enterprising private concern. We do not lose sight of the benevolent aspects of the institution, yet we expect its managers to avail themselves of every advantage afforded them. In our view, the benevolent tendencies of this enterprise, instead of serving as an apology for less extended operations, is justly a reason for more; and this especially, as the Board has never been cramped in its business by any serious losses, by unremunerative publications, or by the outlay of its funds in a missionary capacity.

Yet there may be hinderances to the Board's more enlarged operations, which exist in the very nature of the institution, which hamper the success of all similar institutions, and which may even be greater in the Presbyterian Church than elsewhere. Denominational Boards, as a matter of experience, circulate their books to a very limited extent outside of their own denomination. They scarcely occupy at all the general channels of trade. How few books would be found in the library of a Presbyterian clergyman bearing the imprint of the Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran, or Congregational Boards? And we believe that Presbyterians are even less zealous than other denominations for their own institutions. The very catholicity of our people will not allow them to confine themselves to a single agency for buying or circulating books, while at the same time they are very jealous of any attempt on the part of an authorized church agency to pass its prescribed boundaries. So a Board has not the advantage of selecting and selling books that belongs to a private publishing establishment, and is thus greatly hindered in its efforts to secure an extended trade. A private bookseller, however conscientious, often publishes, and still oftener sells, books that contain sentiments widely different from his own. He may be a Presbyterian, and yet sell, or even publish, the writings of Episcopalians, Methodists, or Baptists, teaching their distinctive doctrines. Nor, within certain limits, does any one suppose that in this there is any impropriety, much less any compromise of his own principles. And some denominational societies, with manifest advantage to the amount of their sales, have gone somewhat upon the same principle, making their salesroom a general bookstore, and putting upon their shelves books that do not teach their views, or that even oppose them. It has not been thought desirable to pursue this method with the Board of Publication. The approval of the Executive Committee must be given to all the operations of the Board, and to every book issued. Obviously this policy tends to confine the business to special and narrow channels. And it goes far to explain the Board's limited influence, that other similar institutions have always laboured under the same difficulties. Indeed the success of this Board will compare favourably with that of any similar enterprise.

Another reason, having a just bearing upon the limited operations of the Institution, as compared with its resources, is the great caution that should be used to prevent the disastrous results of unwise enterprise. It is hard to overrate the importance of financial success in conducting a Board like this. Unfortunate enterprises in book pub-

lishing are by no means uncommon, under both public and private auspices. It is especially desirable that an institution under the care of the Church should proceed safely, if even slowly; a public institution need not count its years so closely as a short-lived individual; while the shock given to public confidence in the disaster of such a Board, is so much greater than the failure of any private concern—the dangers of mistake being really greater in a public than in a private business—that the caution used to prevent such an issue can hardly be excessive. We can ill afford a single mis-step in the direction of too great expansion; the entire security of the Board against reverses is of prime importance, and earnest care to secure these things is good apology for much that seems to lack enterprise. But indeed, twenty five years, by no means lost in good results already secured, is no long period for putting an institution like this upon a firm foundation, and preparing it for the enlarged usefulness which we trust is before it. Let us remember that in all the history of this Board it has known none of those seasons of financial embarrassment that have given so much anxiety to the managers of other benevolent institutions. Even during the sudden arrest of business caused by the war so unexpectedly thrust upon the country, the Board, while compelled to withdraw its colporteurs from active service, suffered no loss of credit in any direction. And to the safety of the general management may be added this statement, that for over twenty years, the losses through bad debts have been but \$1529.67, or less than \$70 per annum. When it is considered that so much business is done through colporteurs scattered over the land, and through persons not well versed in business matters, this seems very creditable to the prudence of the Board's management. Yet your Committee fear that several thousand dollars of the personal debts reported upon the balance sheet of 1862, may prove a loss to the Board. This is owing to the troubles in the country; many balances in the South remained unliquidated at the commencement of hostilities, and may never be paid. The Committee suggested to the Board that all those doubtful balances should be transferred to a suspense account; and they have been since informed that the Board has adopted this recommendation.

Besides these things, there have been advantages accruing to the Presbyterian Church from the operations of the Board, that make no appearance in the figures of the balance sheet. In establishing such a Board, the Church may properly expect incidental advantages; but these should not be lost sight of by us, whose duty it is to make a fair estimate of its success. The Board has made valuable returns to the Church in the prices of books: *first*, that desirable books cost less than formerly; and *secondly*, that more books are put in circulation at lower prices. Our attention has been called especially to the advantages thus secured in regard to two books, that are of essential interest to the Presbyterian Church. We are informed that when the Board began to publish the Confession of Faith, the usual retail price was seventy-five cents. The Board has issued 70,000 copies of this

book, and before the recent rise in prices, retailed them at just half the old price, besides the issue of cheaper forms. The sale of this number has been the saving to our people of a thousand dollars a year; or what is still better, far more copies are put in circulation than could have been sold at the former price. So the former Hymn-book, in the ordinary style of sheep binding, sold for sixty-two and a half cents. Such a book has been sold by other churches for half a dollar; while, before the late advance, the Board sold the present Hymn-book, in that style, at retail, for thirty-five cents. Of this book 731,500 copies have been sold, in various bindings. Supposing that all were of the ordinary style—making no allowance for discounts, which, of course, still further reduce them—comparing our book at thirty-five cents with similar books at fifty cents, the Board has saved to Presbyterians throughout the Church the sum of \$100,000 in less than twenty years.

But the inquiry still returns upon us, cannot the sphere of the Board be enlarged, and its operations rendered still more efficient? Much has been accomplished; a good foundation has been laid; large means have been accumulated; but, it is urged upon us, that the more for all these things, a greater effectiveness should now be secured. All is not done that might be. A private publisher with such means and opportunities at his command, would not be satisfied with an extent of business equal only to this. Perhaps the time has come when we should be satisfied with the capital already accumulated; when we should be regardless of securing larger profits than would fully pay the needful expenses of the Board, and when the direct, single aim, should be the wide circulation of religious truth.

Your Committee would defer to the Assembly's own decisions, as to the best solution of this matter; but would respectfully present the following thoughts upon it.

We can see no advantage, or indeed propriety, in attempting to put the business of this institution under the management of any single individual. Our attention was called to a proposition, made by a gentleman of Philadelphia, to rent the house now occupied by the Board, use the stereotype plates, and do the business now done, upon such terms as would largely increase the profits of the institution. Considerable difference existed between the brethren, who wished us to examine this offer, and the officers of the Board, in their understanding of the proposed terms. Your Committee formed a judgment of the whole matter without any attempt to reconcile the disagreement, since the case presents insuperable difficulties in its own nature. It seemed to us that the Executive Committee was entirely incompetent to entertain even the most favourable proposition; and that perhaps, indeed, the General Assembly could not justly transfer the property in this way. These funds belong to the Church only as a sacred trust, for her own direct management, and with the purposes of the institution always in direct view. And, if this proposed transfer was in itself proper and practicable, we think many reasons make it undesirable.

There are objects to be secured by a Board of Publication, that cannot be gained by the enterprise of any private publisher; and the whole publication-scheme may as well be given up, as put in any such position.

Nor do we think that anything is to be gained by establishing Depositories in different parts of the country. This system has been so fully tried, and found to work so badly in the case of other societies, that no man of judgment and experience is now willing to recommend it. Depositories have been found to be expensive; exhaustive to large amounts of capital; unsatisfactory in their best operation; and, indeed, utterly inefficient. Even when a large capital is used to maintain a Depository in a given place, the stock is often defective; orders are seldom given from which a few books are not left out for lack of supply; the churches and ministers learn to prefer making purchases at head-quarters, where they are never disappointed, rather than apply at even a near Depository, which may but partially furnish what they want; and in the experience of other institutions, constant complaint and final failure have attended almost every effort of this kind.

The Committee was particularly requested, by one correspondent, to give their attention to the establishment of a Depository in so important a commercial centre as New York city. But it seems to us that the general principles pertaining to Depositories, belong here as truly as elsewhere. The efficient agency already established in that city gives room for but one ground of complaint, viz., that the agency there cannot afford the same discount that is given in Philadelphia. This difficulty could be most easily corrected, and at the least cost, by directing the Board to deal with this important agency upon terms so favourable as to place it, for all ordinary sales, upon a full equality with the Philadelphia salesroom. Yet, as the whole matter comes up again in another form, we recur to our conclusion, that Depositories, in general, are not the means needed for enlarging the Board's operations.

But passing from these negative considerations to positive, and we hope, practicable means of promoting the Board's business, the Committee think that even greater attention should be given to the issue of Sabbath-School books. The catalogue of the Board already contains nearly three hundred of these. We cheerfully recognise the excellence of those already published, and we know that the Board during the past year have obeyed the direction of the Assembly, and issued a Sabbath-School library in a cheaper form. But we mention this topic because good Sabbath-School books always sell; even in times of financial difficulty, when many households are less prepared to purchase books designed for general circulation, the Sabbath-School library remains a necessity: and especially our larger schools are ready to buy more volumes than the Board has yet issued.

And we desire to see a greater degree of working interest secured among the ministers and members of the Church generally, to promote the circulation of the Board's volumes. There is an indisposition among our ministers to promote actively the sales of books, which can-

not be justified, since the press should be auxiliary to the pulpit. Every good book placed in one of the families of a congregation is a quiet, untiring worker, in the same direction with the labours of a faithful pastor. Sometimes this pastoral coöperation with the Board—and many a private member should afford the same—should take the form of a commendatory notice, in the public prints, of some valuable volume; interest would thus be added to the columns of our papers, and the impulse given to the sale of books by such notices of the Board's publications, would be but one of many advantages secured. Personal recommendation of the Board's volumes, pains taken to procure any book for those who may wish it, and diligent efforts to scatter them through his congregation and Presbytery, should be thought useful labours on the part of any pastor.

It is now customary for dealers to send a book to order, postage free, upon receipt of the retail price. To adopt this rule in the Board's business, would accommodate many who have no ready access to Philadelphia, except by mail, and would secure many orders for books. The expense would be less than that incurred in sending the books to the purchaser's door through colporteurs; and the plan should work as well for the Board as for other publishers.

Judging that this would prove favourable to extending the business, your Committee recommended to the Executive Committee to allow a more liberal discount to one good bookseller in every principal city, sufficient to induce him to keep on hand a constant and large supply of the Board's publications. Thus we hoped to secure the advantage of Depositories, without the outlay of expense or the distribution of capital. We have since been officially informed that the Executive Committee adopted our recommendation.

But though this Committee have made this recommendation to the Board, and consider it a desirable change upon the policy thus far pursued; though this was going as far as we wished to go upon our own responsibility, it might, perhaps more fully promote the interests of the institution to go further. In view of the comparisons between the capital and the business of the Board, as presented in the statistical table, the Committee wish at least to suggest other changes for the consideration of the General Assembly. We may well fear that serious prejudices and disadvantages will spring up from any attempt to discriminate between different purchasers, who buy like amounts, and stand in equal credit; if the Board can afford a certain discount to some, others will judge that it can also be afforded to them. The chief object of such an institution, beyond the aim of ordinary book publishers, should be to circulate its issues. If they go where we have not anticipated, so much the better; and any course is unwise that closes up or refuses to occupy any field of usefulness.

Let the Board of Publication be directed by the General Assembly to aim at no further additions to its capital, beyond that involved in the issue of new books; to have simply profit enough upon its entire business to pay the full expenses incident to the business; and to do

only the great work for which primarily it was established, viz., to advocate the principles of the Reformation, and to spread abroad religious truth, particularly as understood by Presbyterians. If these directions be given, the Board now possesses advantages sufficient to enable its officers to sell all the good books they can publish. There need be no limit to the accumulation of stereotype plates, whose cost would be reckoned in the production of the books; there would also be, in all likelihood, small profits, because wisdom will always direct the managers to sell rather over than under prime cost. Let the increase of permanent assets strengthen the resources of the institution. Let the avails of rents and profits be expended in the Board's benevolent operations.

Perhaps there need be no change, or little change, in the retail prices of the Board's publications. These have recently risen all over the land, and for all publishers, and they must follow the cost of materials. But we are less concerned to settle the details than the great principles upon which the largest success depends. Experience shows that, except where some particular volume is brought forward, into special notice and with special cheapness, the circulation of books depends more upon the discounts offered to dealers, than upon the retail prices put upon them. Let the discounts to the book-trade be so liberal as to command the attention of every dealer. The booksellers generally have complained of the Board in this respect; and where they have kept its publications, *e. g.*, our Hymn-books, have sold them at higher rates than the catalogue price. They should be no longer allowed any ground of complaint on this score. A generous policy with regard to them would open up channels of business and influence that are now almost wholly closed; and this without injury to the trade already secured by the institution. There would be some books upon the catalogue to be excepted from the usual rule; these must be marked at net prices, or for a lower discount; but this would but little affect the general policy or its success. The Board is strong enough to try such an experiment; it is directly in the line of its avowed object as a benevolent institution; and having no rents to pay, no interests upon investments to calculate, and no need of further accumulations of capital, except as aforesaid, it can find no competitors able to prepare books at any cheaper cost.

In some good degree, enough to throw a little light from experience upon our path, this method of enlarged discounts has already been adopted by the Book Concern of the Methodist Church. In their report for 1860, they say that in order to increase their circulation, they have found it expedient to increase their discounts, "particularly to general dealers, and to the establishments of other denominations. This has contributed very largely to the increase of sales. Parties which formerly bought few of our books are now among our best customers; showing an important fact, that has not always been appreciated, namely, that discounts have at least as much to do with the sale of books as their retail prices."

Doubtless an additional policy of the Methodist Book Concern might also be adopted, which they say has resulted in the sale of "tens of thousands of volumes." This is, to sell entire editions to other publishers; to strike these off from the Board's stereotype plates, if desired, with the imprint of the parties purchasing; and perhaps also, to exchange Sabbath-School publications when any other establishment has already the stereotype plates of a book which this Board can properly adopt.

Let every proper means be used to send the truth broadcast over the land; let the great object be the circulation of good books, little matter who gets the credit of publishing a volume, and since the Board fixes the retail prices so that the people are not imposed upon, little matter who gets the profit. Rather, this may properly go to those who do the important work of giving the volumes into the hands of readers. If the Board of Publication, giving no credits, or short credits, can turn its capital about twice, three times, or five times a year, and thus increase its sales from the maximum hitherto of eighty thousand dollars, to half a million, the Presbyterian Church can well afford to forego the maximum profits of eighteen thousand dollars, thus far reached.

But we simply suggest these things to the consideration of the General Assembly, and thus end this part of our report.

III. Our third special topic is COLPORTAGE.

The efforts to sustain colporteurs in our vast country, though inaugurated over twenty years since, may still be properly esteemed experimental. Its successful prosecution is not an easy task, and it is little wonder, if the cost often seems large in proportion to the evident success secured. Something of this may indeed ever attend such a work. Any one who has noticed how difficult it is to canvass a single county, in the interests of an institution so important and so popular as the American Bible Society; how the difficulty increases with the sparseness of the population, and how many county societies have become involved in debt, through the expensiveness of inefficient agencies, may be prepared to judge that an efficient system of colportage for the whole land must meet with difficulties which the utmost care and experience can neither entirely anticipate nor obviate. Large salaries cannot be paid, yet this work needs men of sound judgment, business capacity, and industrious energy; and to secure the best results, we need that the same men should be retained from year to year, that they may bring to the work the benefits of experience. We may expect this work, so variously prosecuted, to be attended with signal success, and with failures as signal; and every year of its continuance it is easy for its friends to make a glowing picture, by selecting the most striking narratives from the accounts of the labourers, and as easy for opposers to draw a picture as gloomy, by pointing out the sad failures of many whose early promise had awakened sanguine hopes. The truth lies between the extremes. Colportage is an enterprise that demands patient zeal, forbearance with the mistakes of well-meaning

men, and strong faith, that seed sown in discouragement will spring up in a future harvest.

Your Committee was urged to consider Colportage as entirely a business matter, to be conducted upon business principles. This language was laid before us. "Colporteurs ought not to be regarded as missionaries. We have our Board of Missions to attend to that department. Colporteurs should be pious, prudent, exemplary men; able and willing to pray, converse on religion, and give good counsel where they call and lodge; but they should not have an official missionary status. If there is to be anything of the missionary character and labour connected with Colportage, it should be solely under the direction of the Synods, Presbyteries, and Church Sessions. The only exception, *if any exception may be admitted*, should be in regions where these courts do not exist, or cannot operate."

To this view of the matter your Committee do not subscribe. If the colporteurs are merely book agents, the agency is entirely too expensive, and should at once be abandoned. The colporteur work is designed to be benevolent, aggressive, and missionary. And though this indeed is no reason for our prosecuting any work that agrees not with our ecclesiastical principles, it should be borne in mind that we could not stop colportage if we should attempt to do so. Our choice lies between allowing this work to be wholly done by others, in our own settled congregations and in destitute places, or having it done under our own control. And there are some among ourselves, who think that denominational efforts in this work should cease, that the American Tract Society, as more acceptable to the masses of the destitute than any particular church, may occupy this field alone.

But while on the one hand, the field, alas! is large enough for all the labourers; on the other, we think, the Church of Christ, through her authorized agencies, is bound to do the work of evangelizing men. And we maintain that the agency of private members of the church, in their proper sphere—which is not narrow—is as legitimate as the efforts of preachers or apostles. We do not wish to see one agency encroach upon the duties of another; we have no thought of supplanting the ministry, or of transferring its work to other hands; we wish no interference with the place and authority of our church courts. But we believe also, that there is no need for jealousy on the part of the ministry towards much efficient work that may be done by private Christians. We would gladly see many energies called forth that now are dormant, or rather repressed. The colporteur is a missionary; he ought often to be a minister of the gospel; it may sometimes more advance his mission if he is not. The head need not say to the foot, I have no need of thee.

When a colporteur labours within the bounds of a settled congregation, he is especially instructed "to secure the coöperation of the pastor;" and in regard to other denominations, to ascertain from the ministers whether his "labours would be acceptable among the people."*

* See the Board's "Instructions to Colporteurs."

When he goes among the destitute, we think no just view of ecclesiastical authority should prevent any zealous Christian from speaking plainly and earnestly, and praying humbly, in any household of these perishing millions; especially may one do so, who has perhaps been recommended by a Presbytery, and who is employed, with careful inquiries, by those whom the Church has appointed to superintend a work she should not neglect. The Colportage work is not easy; yet may it be made cheap, safe, and efficient, as a missionary work, in a land, where, as yet, we cannot supply the ministry for all our destitutions; it is valuable for its influence upon even our most thickly-settled neighbourhoods, for there our families are not too often addressed by the living voice at their own firesides, upon practical religion; nor will the most faithful pastor think this work, properly done, any hinderance to his own. And the history of the Church records not a few instances, in which the sale or gift of a book, in a household where the ordinary channels of trade would never have borne it, has been the means of awakening and conversion. We should not too carefully compare the benefits apparently secured, with the pecuniary outlay that Colportage demands; while indeed we should guard and guide the work in all wisdom.

In our judgment, colporteurs should be paid, as they have heretofore been in the Board's employ, by a regular salary, and not by a percentage upon their sales. But we suppose that arrangements could be made between the Board of Domestic Missions and the Board of Publication, to employ ministerial labourers, colporteur and missionary in one. In this case, the colporteur's labours might be paid by such a sum as would be agreed upon by the Boards for his services; or the amount from the Board of Publication might arise from a liberal per centage upon sales effected.

Your Committee is apprehensive that too much money has heretofore been expended in the employment of District Superintendents of Colportage; that larger salaries have been given in this direction than the cause will justify, or necessity has demanded; and we think the Board should exercise new caution in this matter. Perhaps more might be effected through the voluntary agencies of ministers and Presbyteries; some settled pastors, of energy and influence, and located near a centre of operations, might, for a small salary, take sufficient oversight of a district to keep every thing in good working order; and to enlist in the work those who have the regular exercise of the ministry, would greatly advance the Board's interests. We are aware that the Assembly has endorsed the policy of District Superintendents; that the most expensive of these agencies, to wit, that in California, was begun at the Assembly's express direction, and with a full knowledge of its costliness; and that that field has remarkable claims upon the Church. Still we judge that great prudence is needful in these expenditures, especially in the present difficult times.

If our previous suggestions be adopted, and the Board be directed to solicit the patronage of booksellers, one further step would at once

largely increase the efficiency of the colporteurs. Let each colporteur be made a soliciting business-agent in every town he visits. Let it be made a part of his duty to call upon those who sell books, to exhibit those he has on hand, to furnish catalogues, and to solicit orders; and thus to invite attention to the advantages the Board holds out. He need not supply books, especially at wholesale prices, nor even forward the orders. In most cases, the cash should accompany the order; and it should be sent directly by the merchant himself. It would generally be found, that the books sold by colporteurs in any community, in advance of those kept by the merchants, serve but to prepare the way for more ready sales. In these times of active efforts, when business is so pressed upon our communities, an agency like this would be of no mean influence and importance.

Colportage lays weighty responsibilities upon the officers having it in charge. They employ so many persons; they have so little opportunity to know them; they must depend so much upon advisers, who sometimes feel little responsibility in their recommendations; and it is so difficult at once to discover or correct errors, wilful or otherwise, that may occur, that the Church should exercise great forbearance with the officers who strive to be faithful in this great and good work. The chief concern of the Assembly should be to agree upon the general principles for conducting the work, and to select competent men to manage it. This done, under a general exhortation to constant vigilance, let these go forward, with all the wisdom and experience they possess, sustained liberally by the benefactions of God's people; sustained believingly by their prayers.

IV. The only remaining topic considered by the Committee is the PERIODICALS.

Touching the *Home and Foreign Record*, we have but little to say. Belonging, as it does, to all the Boards of the Church, the Board of Publication has but a moderate responsibility for its character or success, and is chiefly concerned in its mechanical execution, and in the expenses involved in distributing it, which matters have already been noticed in this report. If, after all that has heretofore been said, any change is desirable or practicable in the reading matter of the *Record*, we judge this can be better secured by the care of the Boards themselves, or by a committee authorized to consult with them all, than by any suggestions we are able to make. Such a committee was appointed by the Assembly in 1860, enlarged in 1861, and in 1862 ordered to report to the present Assembly. This matter belongs to them rather than to us. We gave it considerable thought, and were urged to recommend plans that contemplate greater economy in the publication of the *Record*. But we arrived at no conclusions for any changes sufficiently satisfactory to be presented here.

Nor have we much to say concerning the *Sabbath-School Visitor*. There is nothing now paid for the editorial care of this paper; this expense is wisely saved, and the duty has very properly been assigned to the Corresponding Secretary. The paper is well worthy the patron-

age of the Church. It is highly desirable that the cost of this little periodical should be so reduced as to defray the entire expenses from the receipts, when forty thousand copies are published. We know that in this matter the Board is obliged to compete with similar papers, and seems forced to make the *Visitor* more costly than would otherwise be needful, in quality of material, in the number and style of the engravings, and in the expense of communications. But we question whether such motives should force the Board into expenditures so much beyond the returns, for the adorning and conduct of the paper. Three hundred dollars per annum formerly paid to an editor, and two hundred and fifty last year for copyright, are large sums, when the whole annual issue is but forty-eight pages. Though it is not easy to satisfy the expectations now existing for a child's paper, yet a pleasant and bright-looking sheet, whose chief recommendation is interesting and profitable reading, would meet the reasonable demands of our families and Sabbath-schools.

Judging from the reports of all the Boards, we estimate the annual cost to the Church of publishing the *Home and Foreign Record* at about \$1800. The *Sabbath-school Visitor* within the past four years has cost \$4500 over its receipts. But nearly one-half of this was in 1861, and as we understand, as an investment for the future benefit of the paper. The Board had an opportunity of securing, at low prices, a large assortment of suitable engravings, and judged it economical to do so. The true cost of the *Visitor* over receipts, may therefore be from five to eight hundred dollars a year.*

These results of the Committee's investigations, unanimously concurred in by us, are now presented to the General Assembly. We earnestly hope that the past history of the Board of Publication may prove but its time of preparation for enlarged usefulness; that renewed confidence may be placed in it by the churches; that greater efficiency and influence may belong to all its operations; and that our labours may tend to secure these results. We claim for ourselves an effort at careful, patient, and laborious investigation, entire independence of all advisers in the exercise of an unbiassed judgment, and a single desire to promote these important public interests. It is for the Assembly to estimate the value of our suggestions, as we now respectfully lay this report before you.

CHARLES C. BEATTY,
H. H. LEAVITT,
CHARLES CROSBY,
L. H. ATWATER,
WILLIAM M. PAXTON,
JOHN M. LOWRIE.

* Previous to May 1860, the issue of the *Visitor* was semi-monthly. The Secretary informs me that just before the war, the list of subscribers had run up from 45,000 to 75,000, and that about 20,000 subscribers were lost in consequence of the war.



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